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Meet Peggy Johnston An out lesbian who heads up U.S. AIDS vaccine effort. page 14



Porn star confidential Turning heads with Tristan Paris. see Arts section



Vol. 30 • No. 2 • 13 January 2000

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 28 years

Fisher bargains in Winchell murder

by Bob Roehr

rmy Specialist Justin R. Fisher, 26, pleaded guilty in a military court to reduced charges asso-ciated with the homophobic blud-

geoning death of Private First Class Barry Winchell at Fort Camp-bell, Kentucky last July. He was sentenced last Saturday, January 8 to 12.5 years in prison. Winchell's parents and the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network are unhappy with the outcome.
Fisher and the Army cut a deal in



which the soldier cooperated in pro-viding evidence against the principal killer, Private Calvin Glover, who was killer, Private Calvin Glover, who was convicted in an earlier trial and sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. In return, the Army dropped the more serious charges against Fisher of being an accessory to premeditated murder and after the fact. The soldier pleaded guilty to the remaining charges of obstruction of the investigation.

remaining charges of obstruction of the investigation.

During the sentencing, Fisher wept and apologized for his role in the tragedy. "Barry, I hope you can hear me," he said. "I hope you know that if I could go back to the morning it happened, I would have changed it all." He admitted that he had egged on a drunken Glover and provided him with the baseball bat used in the murder. He also washed blood off the bat and lied to investigators about his involvement.

Nashville forensic psychiatrist Keith Caruso, who evaluated Fisher at the request of the defendant's attor-ney, revealed more of the psychosexual dynamics that permeated this con-

al dynamics that permeated this convoluted case.

Caruso told the court that Fisher "certainly had questions" about his own sexual identity. The expert diagnosed him as an alcoholic with a cross-dressing fetish who had worn women's lingerie since the age of 14. Fisher told Caruso that doing so left him feeling both aroused and more comfortable, though he claimed not to be sexually attracted to men. Fisher confessed that it was he who had first brought Winchell to The

had first brought Winchell to The Connection, a gay bar in Nashville. There Winchell had met and begun a relationship with Call "Calpernia" Ad-dams, a performer at the bar who is a transgendered woman. This relation-ship was the basis for much of the anti-gay harassment that Winchell faced on base during the last four

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No on Knight needs you and your money by Terry Beswick

magine for a moment – what would the lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders, and queers of California do if it were suddenly revealed that a few right-wing fundemy revealed that a few right-wing tund-damentalists had gotten together one day a few years back and hatched a most especial-ly nefarious and wickedly clever scheme to turn back the tide of their steady climb to-wards equal rights?

wards equal rights?

How would people react if told that these Jerry Falwell and Jesse Helms types – perhaps after one more long, tiresome Sunday morning putting the fear of some whackedout god into the souls of their bread-and-butter flock in television-land – decided to just go for the gold and get the queers?

What if thoughtful people throughout the state were to suddenly realize, in January 2000, that these minor religious zealots' insecure little power play – however it was

secure little power play – however it was cooked up – is in fact already a tidal wave that has swept over Congress and the White House, changing U.S. laws, as well as the laws of at least 30 states?

It's a rather dramatic scenario, but the fact is that the March 7 election is less than
the March 7 election is less than
the Months away, and according to the No
on Knight/Proposition 22 campaign, it's not
looking too good.
Proposition 22 is a statewide measure on

the March 7 ballot. Authored by state Sena



Tracey Conaty and Esperanza Macias say the No on Knight campaign needs money, volunteers

tor Pete Knight (R-Palmdale), the homo-phobic parent of an openly gay son whom he has estranged, the initiative defines marriage in California as being between one man and one woman. Same-sex marriage would not be recognized in the event that a more egalitarian state should someday legalize it. Current state law already prevents same-sex couples from getting married, leading the No on Knight campaign to focus on the fact that Proposition 22 is unnecessary.

It's the middle of January. The outcome of the March election is far from clear. Indeed, the No on Knight/Proposition 22 cambers as held the strength of the s

deed, the No on Knight/Proposition 22 campaign appears to be in deep trouble.

As the latest campaign finance statements are tallied on both sides, it's clear that the campaign against Proposition 22 – the most anti-gay ballot measure to hit California in years – is far behind in one key area: cash.

And perhaps just as critical, the campaign reports a need for volunteers.

"We need to get to \$5 million to be competitive with the other side," said Tracey Conaty, spokeswoman for Californians for Fairness, which runs the statewide campaign against Proposition 22 from their San Francisco headquarters on Mission Street. "This is pedal-to-the-metal time, folks. We need people to get out their wallets now."

And according to Esperanza Macias, Northern California field coordinator for No on Knight/Proposition 22, she is about 900

on Knight/Proposition 22, she is about 900

As the Castro turns

Gay men embroiled in Ellis Act drama

by Katie Szymanski

lenn-Allen McKeever is a 40-year resident of the city, longtime activist, and friend of the late Harvey Milk. He is also a 61-year-old diabetic in poor health who is facing eviction from his Castro apartment under the state Ellis Act.

What's worse, say his supporters, the eviction notice comes from homeowners Dan Andrade and Mark Chapman, a younger gay couple who made part of their fortune through the computer industry, bought the large house that contains McKeever's tiny inlaw space, and seemingly have little regard for what will happen to an ailing senior citizen with no place to go.

"What makes this chapter both sad and

ugly is the gay versus gay aspect of this bat-tle," Bill Weintraub, a McKeever supporter, told the Bay Area Reporter. "Two young gay men ... living in a neighborhood that was colonized and then made safe for homosex-

uals by McKeever's generation, are using their money to throw him out."

Of course, no story is as simple as that. McKeever did bring a neighbor's dog into the apartment for an extended stay, and has refused to accept any amount of money to re-

"They could offer me \$25,000 to move, and I wouldn't take it," McKeever told the B.A.R. "I'm staying put."

He also threatened the lives of the landlords, according to their attorney Andrew Zacks. It is this attitude, said Zacks, that has turned a could be also be a support of the landlords. turned a routine procedure into a legal battle,



Glenn-Allen McKeever

and one that is apparently pointless because of the structure and placement of the apartment itself.

'It's an illegal in-law unit," Zacks told the B.A.R. "To continue to rent it would be against the law."

Exercising their rights, Andrade and Chapman simply do not want to be landlords in their own home, according to Zacks, much less to a difficult tenant who does not respect

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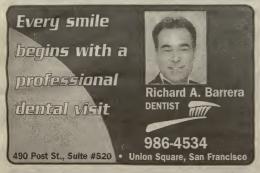
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Under One Roof reaches \$6 million mark

by Katie Szymanski

t was Monday, January 3, and David Ibarguen just wanted to shop at Under One Roof – the variety and gift store that donates organizations – like he had done faithfully for years. So when he approached the cash register and was greeted by applause, fanfare, and store-wide attention, he was a bit restall. bit startled

Turns out, Ibarguen was the customer who broke the store's \$6 million mark in sales. Paul Olsen, chief executive officer of Under One Roof, acknowledged Ibar-guen as "representative of the thousands of customers, and the hundreds of volunteers, who to-gether make the store's success possible." Ibarguen was presented with a gift basket of orchids and wine to celebrate the occasion, and had a few things to say himself.

You guys made my New Year!" Ibarguen told the crowd, still a bit flushed with excitement. "I shop here all the time, and appreciate what you do for the com-munity. This is great!" Under One Roof's Olsen told

the Bay Area Reporter that the sur-prise moment was one he had

een looking forward to all week.
"You should have seen the look
on his face," Olsen said of Ibarguen. "We had been tracking the



Longtime customer David Ibarguen, left, received a gift basket from Under One Roof CEO Paul Olsen upon making the purchase that put the store over the \$6 million mark in sales

sales very carefully. Nobody in the store knew what was going on. It was really cool."

In further remarks, Olsen said that since moving to its new Cas-tro Street home, the store's sales have increased dramatically over the former Market Street location. This has allowed Under One Roof to increase the amount of money distributed to the numerous AIDS organizations participating in the

"If we had been in our old lo-cation, we never would have reached this point so quickly," said

Olsen.
Under One Roof reached its \$5 million mark on World AIDS Day in December 1998, so it took just over a year to make another million dollars. The store will distribute holiday profits of \$250,000 to

participating organizations within the next 60 days.
Founded in 1990, Under One Roof, at 549 Castro Street, helps provide AIDS agencies with unrestricted funding so that they can concentrate on providing services to the thousands of people affected by HIV and AIDS. Recipient agencies include ACT UP/Golden Gate, the Names Project, and Project Open Hand, to name just a few. Store operations are underwritten in part by Chevron, the Gap, E*TRADE, Fisher Development, and DFS Group, as well as ment, and DFS Group, as well as dozens of vendors and hundreds of volunteers. ▼

Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily; Sunday hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Adoption seminar to be held tonight and Saturday

by Katie Szymanski

. wanna kid? Even the sst ... wanna kid? Even the butchest of us might sometimes feel that paternal instinct kick in. If you've moved past thinking babies are kind of cute and actually can't wait to make a lifelong commitment, a seminar in the Sunset District will arm you with everything you need to know to adopt a child from China, Russia, or other countries around the world.

countries around the world.
Tonight, (Thursday, January
13) and this Saturday, January 15, the adoption agency ACCEPT -the only licensed adoption organization in San Francisco special-izing in international adoptions – will host a free orientation in the will nost a free orientation in the Sunset District to singles and couples looking to provide a good home for a child. The 90-minute seminar will be presented by seven families and their adopted children and give all the details on the costs are polices, analification. the costs, age polices, qualifica-tions, restrictions, and necessary procedures so that your adopted child can be in your home this year. Children will then leave the room and seminar participants can spend the remainder of the time wandering around, talking to the families and agencies of their choice, asking the difficult and sensitive questions (how and if lingering effects of Chernobyl play a part in Russian orphanages,

for instance).

There will be no photographs of children waiting to be adopted and "no sales pitches, pressure, or guilt stuff," according to Shayna Billings, who is presenting the seminar.

And while the orientation is

not targeted toward gays and les-bians, it will include topics such as single parenting and alternative families.

"Gays and lesbians can talk to with adoption," said Billings. These issues include how homophobia in other countries may affect a person's chances of adopting a child, and the legal procedures necessary for gay adoption in the United States.

Last year, over 10,000 children were brought to the U.S. from China or Russia, and hundreds more came from bordering counmore came from bordering coun-tries. Simply educating yourself will show you how readily possi-ble it is to bring an infant, toddler, or older child into your home. "For anyone who's thinking about it, this seminar will fast-start them," said Billings, "and give

them a three- to six-month jump on the process."

on the process."
Attendance is by advance registration only, due to limited seating. Tonight's seminar is at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday's is at 10 a.m. Both seminars take place at 1500 Noriega Street, at 22nd Avenue, suite 110. Call (415) 681-4957 or (650) 917-8090 to reserve a space. ▼



Hallinan takes oath



an Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan, right, was administered the oath of office by Superior Court Judge John Dearman Saturday, January 8 before a crowd of about 500 friends and supporters. During his inaugural speech, Hallinan said he will continue prosecuting hard-core criminals but will continue to find new ways to give less serious offenders second chances. Hallinan was re-elected last month.

Low-key inaugural for Willie Brown

Mayor wants 'civic conversation' on issues

by Cynthia Laird

ayor Willie Lewis Brown Jr. was sworn in for his second term as San Francisco's mayor last Saturday, January 8 on the steps of City Hall. During Brown's inaugural speech, he promised to listen to all San Franciscans – even those who sup-ported challenger Tom Ammiano in last month's runoff election.

in last month's runoff election.

Brown won a landslide victory
December 14 over the openly gay
Ammiano, president of the Board
of Supervisors. Ammiano was not
in attendance Saturday, though
many elected officials were on
hand, including Congresswoman
Nancy Pelosi, members of the
Board of Supervisors, and even
Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown.
Saturday's ceremony was
markedly subdued from the
mayor's first inauguration held
four years ago when 10,000 people attended the event at Yerba
Buena Gardens. This time about
1,000 people attended – including

1,000 people attended – including one protester, who was booed when he briefly interrupted the

cvent.
California Supreme Court
Chief Justice Ronald M. George
administered the oath of office to
Brown, who was assisted by his
two grandchildren, Besia Rose
Friedel, 6, and Matea Rae Friedel,
3, who held the family Bible.
During his remarks, Brown acknowledged the recent election
was "very, very tough."
"This election was, for me, unlike any I had participated in," the
mayor said. Brown, 65, has held
elective office for decades; he was
speaker of the state Assembly before becoming mayor in 1996.

fore becoming mayor in 1996.

The mayor credited Ammiano with bringing thousands of people into the political process, many for the first time. And Brown said he wants those people to stay involved. "It is important for people to come back again and again."

Ammiano, as an openly gay

Ammiano, as an openly gay candidate, "commanded attention candidate, commanded attention from all over," the mayor said. "This city is so inclusive and fair in its consideration that never at any point did the gay and lesbian



Mayor Willie Brown was sworn in by state Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald George Saturday, January 8 at City Hall.

community evaluate the election on who's gay and who's not and I do indeed value that respect," Brown added.

Brown said he learned a lot from the election, including the need to listen. He said that during the many debates he and Ammi-ano participated in, he heard from citizens throughout the city. "The debates gave us a chance to devel-op 'civic conversations,' the mayor said, adding that he wants those discussions to continue. "I never thought I'd acknowledge I made

mistakes.
"This is a new administration. This administration intends to be inclusive, even to those who did

not support my candidacy," Brown declared. He touched on a number of priority issues, including afford-able housing, the homeless, public

transportation, and what he called, "a workable living wage."
"I want a civic conversation on the homeless," Brown said. "The civic conversations, I hope, will be continuous and include all of San Francisco. I want you to stay and participate. I am about building consensus.

Brown closed by saying that while the public discussions would take place, at some point action has to occur. "We will not listen forever. We will make a de-

The mayor also touched on the

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long championed district elections. ▼

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Gay prisoner expects new parole hearing

by Ed Walsh

Southern California gay man convicted of murdering a classmate who "outed" and physically attacked him on the night of his high school graduation is getting a new chance for freedom. In an exclusive interview with the Bay Area Reporter, Robert Rosenkrantz said he's looking forward to an expect-

Reporter, Robert Rosenkrantz said he's looking forward to an expected new parole hearing, but he's trying not to be "too optimistic." Rosenkrantz was convicted of killing 17-year-old Steven Redman in Malibu in 1985. Redman had disrupted a graduation party hosted by Rosenkrantz, then 18, at his family's beach house. Redman called Rosenkrantz a "faggot," clubbed him with a flashlight, and clubbed him with a flashlight, and broke his nose. Redman continued his torment by exposing Rosenkrantz's homosexuality to his father, who disowned his son and threw him out of the house. Rosenkrantz testified he was Rosenkrantz testified he was forced to live out of car and became despondent. He bought an

Uzi, confronted Redman, and demanded he retract his "outing." When Redman refused, Rosenkrantz shot and killed him. He was convicted of second-de-gree murder and sentenced to 17

years to life in prison.
On Wednesday, January 12, in a telephone interview with the B.A.R. from the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, Rosenkrantz said he expects to be granted a new parole hearing, which will likely be scheduled for next month. Rosenkrantz's lawyer, Rowan Klein, told the B.A.R. a judge is expected to order a new parole hearing at a court hearing next week and the parole hearing will be scheduled within 30 days.

Rosenkrantz's parole has been held up by Governor Gray Davis, who has vowed to stop the parole of all convicted killers. "If the system had worked as normal, I

tem had worked as normal, I would have been free a few years ago," Rosenkrantz told the B.A.R.
Rosenkrantz, who has been described as a model prisoner, has drawn wide support, even from members of the victim's family.

His supporters include Redman's grandmother, Los Angles County District Attorney Gil Garcetti, the judge who presided over the murder trial, and the sheriff's detec-

der trial, and the sheriff's detec-tive who investigated the case.
Rosenkrantz said he is looking forward to a new parole hearing but he's reluctant to get his hopes up because they have been dashed too many times before. "It's like a cancer patient getting false news he's in remission and then having he's in remission and then having to go back to chemotherapy treat-ment," Rosenkrantz told the B.A.R. "You can't get too opti-mistic. I try to stay as down to earth as possible." Rosenkrantz, now 32, has earned a college degree while in prison and tutors other inmates.

He said that he has tried to stay as positive as possible despite his circumstances. Rosenkrantz said many of his fellow inmates take antidepressant medications to cope but he has stayed mentally bal-anced on his own. "You don't want to go to a parole hearing and have to tell them you're on psychiatric medication," said Rosenkrantz. \textsf{\textsf

Register now for HIV advocacy conference

by Cynthia Laird

he San Francisco AIDS Foundation will host its annual HIV Advocacy Network conference and training Saturday, January 29, and while there's still space available, the registration deadline for the free event is next Friday, January 21. "Standing Our Ground: Protecting Our Future Through Community Partnerships" is the theme of this year's daylong conference and training. The conference will look at the future of HIV/AIDS advocacy in California and nation-

vocacy in California and nation-wide, including in-depth work-shops and grassroots strategizing.

Workshop topics will include Ryan White CARE Act reauthorization, HIV reporting legislation, local implementation of needle exchange laws, and targeted funding for communities of color.

"If we are to meet the vital need for services, treatment, and prevention, it is essential that the HIV and AIDS community be

HIV and AIDS community be heard in Sacramento and Wash-ington, D.C.," said Randy Allgaier, ington, D.C., "said Randy Allgaier, HAN director. "Our legislators must be made and kept aware, and we believe this conference will enhance the organization, coordi-

nation, and education that is key to that effort." HAN is the grassroots com-munity-organizing program of

SFAF's public policy department. HAN organizes HIV service providers, AIDS advocates, and people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in Northern California to promote legislative action and public policies that address the needs of the community. With more than 1,000 members ranging from the Oregon border to ing from the Oregon border to Bakersfield, HAN is a respected voice in AIDS advocacy.

The conference takes place at SFAF's office, 995 Market Street at Sixth, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ▼

To attend, register online at www.sfaf.org/policy/han_confer ence or call (415) 487-3080.

HRC's LGBT committee seeks members

by Liz Highleyman

he Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is currently seeking new members. The LGBTAC, one of five HRC standing committees, addresses issues of concern to the queer

communities, and advises the full HRC on these issues. In the past, the LGBTAC has heard testimony

on issues including city bath-house and sex club regulations, gender identity disorder, Latino/a issues, and economic empower-

The committee is seeking community activists with knowledge and experience in such areas as HIV/AIDS, healthcare, anti-violence, education, class, disability, gender, women's, and youth issues. Applicants must be San Francisco residents, and must make a commitment to attend

committee meetings on the third

committee meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.; additional time may be necessary for special projects.

Interested applicants should send a letter describing their community involvement and areas of interest and expertise to HRC coordinator Larry Brinkin at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 800, San Francisco 94102-6033, or by fax to (415) 431-5764. Letters must be received by Thursday, must be received by Thursday, January 20, at 5 p.m.



Leno calls for end to ban on gay blood

by Terry Beswick

n the midst of a critical blood

n the midst of a critical blood shortage, the Blood Centers of the Pacific is rejecting donations from gay and bisexual men.

The blood bank, which supplies blood for some 400 patients at 35 hospitals, issued an emergency appeal last week for donations, but federal regulations have prevented the blood banks from taking donations from gay and bisexual men since the advent of AIDS in the early 1980s.

Inspectors from the Food and Drug Administration, the agency

Drug Administration, the agency responsible for protecting the nation's blood supply, would shut down Blood Centers of the Pacific and any other blood bank that accepted donations from a man who admitted having sex with another man in the last 23 years. among other criteria



Dr. Nora Hirschler talks to Supervisor Mark Leno about FDA policies regarding blood donations by gay men

But San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno believes the regula-tions, which are based on 20-year-old science, are long overdue due for a change.

Last Thursday, January 6, Leno and three other gay men went to

the Blood Centers of the Pacific on Masonic Avenue to stage a protest against the regulations. Using advanced laboratory tests which can detect minute amounts of HIV in pooled blood

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City College offers two free relationship classes to LGBT community

by Katie Szymanski

dmit it, you've got baggage Two upcoming free courses offered through City College of San Francisco may not cure that which makes you a nightmare lover, but they sure will offer some interesting insight into how and why you are destroying whatever you love.

The courses are taught by li-censed mental health profession-als and are made possible by funds set aside specifically for teaching basic skills to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders. Straight people are always welcome, but the courses were designed by lesbians with a queer focus in mind.

Beginning this Tuesday evening, January 18, at 6:30 p.m. is "Love, Anger, and Anxiety in Intimate Relationships," taught by Genevieve Howe. Topics to be discussed include falling in love, love and anxiety, when love turns to hate, passionate love and suffering, anger, obsession, and the destruction of a relationship, and

transformation of the self.

On Monday evenings, starting
January 24, at 6:30 p.m., Bev Wells
will offer "Healing the Wounds of
Shame." Topics will include understanding shame, excessive
shame, shame in the family and in
current relationships, and how we
shame ourselves.

Both courses run for eight

weeks and take place at Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street in San Francisco. ▼

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DADT under scrutiny ... finally

he 2000 presidential campaign is in full swing, what with the New Hamp-shire primary and Iowa caucuses right around the corner, and voters across the country watching debates and reading about them in the media. Last week's Democratic and Republican match-ups in new Hampshire and South Carolina were note-worthy in that the failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy covering gays and lesbians in the military took center stage at both events. It seemed DADT was once again all over the news, proving that the policy – and efforts to end or substantially change it – is, as we

say in the business, a story with legs.

The subject of gays in the military is on the verge of becoming one of the major campaign topics of the presidential race, and it bears examining where the candidates stand on this crucial issue. It also bears reiterating that we are disappointed that it took the murder of a soldier believed to be gay to bring the issue to the forefront of American politics. The gay community has been critical and vocal about DADT's failings since the policy took effect in 1993.

Democratic front-runner Al Gore last week made the unfortunate move by saying week made the unfortunate move by saying that his nominees for the Joint Chiefs of Staff would have to support his proposed policy that gays be allowed to serve openly in the military. This so-called litmus test backfired and two days later Gore was forced to issue one of those "What I meant to say..." statements that showed he is trying to be all things to all voters. While Gore still supports allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military, he had to water down his original comments. "I did not mean to imply that there should ever be any mean to imply that there should ever be any kind of inquiry into the political opinions of officers in the U.S. military," was Gore's

or oncers in the U.S. military, was Gore's revised statement.

Gore's surprisingly strong Democratic challenger, former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley, was the first mainstream presidential candidate to publicly denounce the

vered from that stand. He also came off bet-ter at last week's New Hampshire debate because he did not mention the need for a litmus test. Bradley instead stated that such a test was unnecessary because military officers follow orders from their com-

follow orders from their commander in chief no matter what.

On the GOP side, all of the candidates oppose gays serving openly in the military, and the super-conservative Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes came off as hopelessly out of touch with reality by their homophobic comments at the Republican debate. George W. Bush and John McCain – the latter of whom received money from the Log Cabin Republicans – support DADT. **Editorial**

support DADT.

Current military leaders are following orders from President Bill Clinton, who

other than stating recently that he sees DADT as being "out of whack," has done lit-tle to indicate he's able to facilitate real change among his Joint Chiefs of Staff, or

Congress for that matter.
We don't see DADT ending soon, but we do see an increased awareness among political leaders that some-thing must be done to drastically fix the mess. Our hope is that more can be accomplished after the next presi-

dent is elected, particularly if the House of Representatives is re-turned to Democratic leader-

ship.
Change often occurs in in-Change often occurs in increments, and we see this happening as DADT takes center stage in this early campaign season. Change will eventually come if the discussion of DADT continues beyond the primary debates instead of becoming just another forgotten issue. ▼



MY WIFE!! QUICK-PUT ON THIS FAKE MOUSTACHE!"

on't be fooled

by Jerry D. Threet

"Money makes the world go around, the world go around, the world go around. Money makes the world go around, that clinking clanking sound."

- from Cabaret

hen I heard that song again at the Broadway show Cabaret the other night, it made me think for a moment about the election for mayor just completed here in San Francisco. Later, I re-flected on how the LGBT movement has changed, and the internal challenges our movement faces. The role of the Alice B. Toklas Club in the mayor's race is worthy of

examination here.

As a chief campaign consultant on the Brown campaign, and finance chair of the Toklas Club, Robert Barnes used his club as a front for hundreds of thousands of dollars. of big business, special interest "soft money" during the election for mayor. This money came from big landlords and big develop-ers trying to protect their cozy relationship with the Brown administration. As quee tenants continue to lose their homes in this eviction crisis, and neighborhoods like the Castro continue to be turned into suburban theme malls, Barnes and the Toklas Club used special interest money for TV com-mercials and direct mail distorting the record of Tom Ammiano, a pro-tenant, pro-neighborhood, gay candidate who chal-lenged the machine on which Barnes de-

pends for his livelihood.
Ultimately, Barnes ended up earning at least \$90,000 for his efforts as Brown's politi-cal consultant. And all the while, Barnes and other Toklas Club leaders claimed to be rep-resenting the LGBT community, rather than the special interests who paid for their efforts. No doubt, the Toklas Club has ended up wellfunded for submitting to Barnes's control

But at what cost?

Last October, Toklas Club leaders Last October, Toklas Club leaders protested a newspaper advertisement by the Reilly campaign that depicted political consultant Robert Barnes as puppeteer of the Toklas Club, with Willie Brown as puppetmaster of Barnes. Toklas co-chairs Dean Goodwin and Esther Lee proclaimed the independence of the club, assuring our community that Barnes was merely one member with no more influence than any other. They went one step further and suggested that

with no more influence than any other. They went one step further and suggested that Reilly was homophobic for running the ad.

The irony of these same LGBT machine operatives subsequently giving tacit approval to a homophobic flyer to help Brown get elected is very heavy, indeed.

Last month, Barnes and other Brown operatives stood by silently and approximative and supposition of the supposition of the subsequence of the supposition of the suppo

Brown operatives stood by silently and approvingly as Joe O'-Donoghue, the city's biggest live/work loft developer, did the mayor's dirty work by putting out a homophobic diatribe against Ammiano that appealed to the worst religious-based **Guest Opinion** bigotry against the LGBT

community. Mark Leno, a Brown supporter, at first stated that the flyers were not homophobic, but changed his mind after the election was over and condemned after the election was over and condemned them. Carole Migden, Brown's heir apparent, still has not spoken to the issue, although she partied with O'Donoghue at his house during the campaign. Only Harry Britt, former president of the Board of Supervisors, had the courage of his convictions and publicly supported Ammiano for mayor.

I see these dynamics as a resurgence of old tensions between competing strategies within the movement, cranked up to a new intensity. The struggle between assimilation and activism is as old as the LGBT move-ment. The Toklas Club was founded by assimilationists and has always aligned itself with the political machine in the hope that "respectable" upper-middle-class gays and lesbians would thereby make it into the

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wer structure. In contrast, the more independent Milk Club arose out of the experience of Harvey Milk. When the Toklas Club supported his machine opponent, Milk and others started what would become the Harvey Milk De-mocratic Club. Milk believed that queers deserved a club that would support other queers and that would build alliances with other groups then shut out of San Francis-

co polities.

The same dynamics continue to play out today. Toklas Club leaders support machine candidates against LGBST candidates who would build alliances with folks left out of

would build alliances with folks left out of the political process. Some gays in San Francisco may feel secure supporting the machine, knowing that their demands for equal rights for gays and lesbians will find a sympathetic ear. Unfortunately, that comfortable approach leaves out all of the reaching a processing digitar than working poor, including the young queers who can no longer afford to live here.

Don't be fooled. Machine candidates,

no matter what their sexuality, will never represent the interests of ordinary queers over those of their big business donors.

This March, I and several other queer activist candidates will run for the Democratic County Central Committee in an effort to reclaim the party from the political ma-chine. We will run on a pro-tenant, neigh-borhood empowerment, political reform platform.

I hope that the Toklas Club will take this opportunity to support those candidates and by doing so, to represent the interests of our community over those of big business.

Jerry D. Threet is a housing rights attorney and Democratic Party activist who is a member of both the Alice B. Toklas and Harvey Milk Democratic clubs.

Wake up, refuse to be demonized

When is our community going to wake up once and for all and refuse to be demonized by being the targets of police entrapment and sting operations aimed at so-called public sex? From Pee-Wee Herman to George Michael, we are currently relegated to being the butt of late-night comedians' jokes. This is a serious, victimless crime issue with consequences that reach far beyond queer society into the realm of the rights of without far. rights of privacy for all Americans.

San Francisco

Entrapment has parallels to other issues

The issue of police entrapment of gay men has so many parallels to the other struggles for equality for lesbians and gay men. In the issue of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" we spend all of our time debating the demoralizing effect of having openly gay solders instead of focusing Mailstrom

ing openly gay solders instead of focusing on the real problem of the demoralizing of the real problem of the demoralizing effect of openly bigoted homophobic soldiers. In the issue of gay marriage we spend all of our time debating the effect allowing same-sex marriage would have on "the family" instead of focusing on the real problems created by a heterosexist law that ignores the gay family. In the issue of fag bashing we spend our time debating whether the gay man showed undue romantic attention to a heterosexual identified man instead of focusing on the real issue of insecure men who hunt down gay men for the express purpose of inflicting violence and sometimes even miscedire men who hant down gay men for the express purpose of inflicting violence and sometimes even death. In the issue of police entrapment we spend our time debating whether so-called public sex is moral instead of focusing on the real issue of homophobic policemen who have discovered the gay sexual underground and use it as a place to take revenge on every single man they determine to be gay reargless. every single man they determine to be gay regardless of the gay man's intent.

Robert Starkey, aka "The Truth Fairy" San Francisco

Using lesbians to sell burgers

[The following e-mail was sent to Jack in the Box]
I am writing to you regarding a recent commercial I viewed for Jack in the Box. From time to time I patronize Jack in the Box and I have noticed your commercials which for the most part are humorous and catch my attention. The commercial I am refer-

and catch my attention. The commercial I am refer-ring to is insensitive, upsetting, and ultimately un-necessary to sell burgers.

It starts with Jack sitting on the floor in a circle with young women and men in what appears to be some sort of support group. A young woman asks Jack, "How do you know if you are a lesbian?" where-as Jack stares at her in surprise and then starts talking about a burger. about a burger.

Then after his speech about the burger, the young woman thanks Jack for his support. Apparently this is supposed to be humorous

supposed to be humorous.

Young people who believe they may be lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered and are seeking support need serious attention and should not be the butt of your jokes. These young people have a higher risk of committing suicide than their non-gay counterparts due to isolation and are often ridiculed, abused, or abandoned by their families. I know of these issues firsthand as a 29-year-old gay man having dealt with coming out in a less than supportive environment.

Turge you to seriously consider removing this commercial from the air as it terribly inappropriate. While you consider that, I will seriously consider never patronizing your establishment again.

I would appreciate a response regarding this mat-

Shawn Hall San Francisco

Go see Ripley movie

Well, you know you have a good movie on your hands when a knee-jerk pomo critic gives it a thumbs down. Scott Wing's humorous call for a boycott of *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (Mailstrom, January 6) highlights the elitism that infects the thinking of self-styled guardians of Hollywood "ethics," and also shows it's time to start thinking for ourselves.

Here you have a story set in the 1950s about a talented warfunged by consist.

ented working-class gay man condemned by capital-ism to a dead-end, self-denying existence, who by sheer good fortune is catapulted into the glamorous world of the parasitic rich, is by turns charmed, ma-nipulated, and discarded, who refuses to return meekly to the life the society has criminally relegated him to, and turns the tables on the real criminals. Of

to, and turns the tables on the real criminals. Of course, he must face the consequences of his acts, ultimately destroying his one chance for true validation as a human being just to survive.

That a movie made today would explore the dark realities of the class system with such honesty and perception is cause enough for celebration. That the question of "crime" would be considered in the broader context of that system is, for Hollywood, a near miracle. But that the protagonist, and yes, the

hero of the story is a gay man whose sexuality is cru-elly exploited by a spoiled straight jerk (ring a bell out there?), and whose only true and intimate relation-ship with another man (beautifully rendered here) cannot survive the dictates of that same system and his own loss of control, shows not how far we have to

go, but how far we've come.

All of which, of course, is lost on Mr. Wing, whose dismissal of the Matt Damon character as a "repressed criminal" "on a murder charge" only shows how narrow and one-dimensional his perception is. A true postmodernist, he insists on imposing today's archetype of the "positive" gay character (translation: happy, well-adjusted, and middle-class) on every story, no matter the historical context. Apparently for him, the only acceptable version of Ripley would have had Damon give Jude Law a rousing speech about coming out of the closet, turn on a dime, storm out, find a lover, build a fab-

ulous career as a pianist, and move to a Manhattan loft – all a full decade before

Enough already. The Talented Mr. Ripley tells more truths about the nature of homophobia in modern capiture. talist society than all the "positive" movies you'll ever see at the Castro. It's 2000 folks Stalinism is dead. Go see it.

Meatless bone versus decent steak

The new millennium. How very exciting and full of possibilities. As a community, we must weigh our choices and decisions very carefully. We have weathered ridiculous policies of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," etc. Even the president has stated it simply does not work, which was obvious from the get go. We in a way settled for a metallice how into do the white for a decision. tled for a meatless bone instead of pushing for a de-

cent steak.

Now we are in the same position with the recent ruling in Vermont. It is great in a way, and certainly makes some strides after the disappointment of Hawaii. However, the question now is if we are willing to settle for "domestic partnership", I am 34 years old and have never once in my life heard a heterosexual refer to their loved one as their "domestic partner". Obtaining benefits for your partner is a good thing, but what are we sacrificing in the process? It still boils down to the belief that gay or lesbian is different, so it's okay to treat us differently. Well, it's not. In the bus boycotts of the 1960s, I did not see African In the bus boycotts of the 1960s, I did not see African Americans saying "Well, at least they are kind of nice to us so if we have to sit in the back of the bus, I sup-

pose we should put up with it."
France, Denmark, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Quebec, and Ontario all have laws in place to protect the best interests of same-sex unions. In "the Land of the Free" are we willing to settle for anything less than total equality? When women fought for the right to vote, did they grasp at a straw and accept a "deal" where they could vote on only certain issues? Of course not. I personally am not willing to accept that I will get "some" benefits but not the same ones my neighbor gets. If I am treated like a second-class citizen, then tax me like one. Have the religious right cut me a check for my rebate.

Please write your senator or state representative and tell them that you want your constitutional rights just like everyone else. That would include the choice to be legally married if you wish.

> Randy Sindelar Corturillo Cleveland, Ohio

Things we can do without

I would like to ask people in my neighborhood to stop spray-painting slogans and propaganda on the

Whether it's the Dyke March time and date, the "Resist the HIV Myth" crap, or the newest ones like "Worship Butthole and Join the Universe," I think we can do without these things.

They're ugly, pointless, and almost impossible to get rid of. And, with so many other creative ways to

get across any type of message these days, I think they are anachronistic as well. I believe in freedom of speech, but I think spraypainting crosses the line.

Steve Weller San Francisco

Higher taxes for 'non-nuclear' family

It is not an uncommon occurrence for gay and les-bian survivors in committed relationships to be asbian survivors in committed relationships to be as-sailed by the hostile family of their lover over money, property, even possession of their lover's ashes. Cus-todial rights of an invalidated lover are also open to litigation. There is much less likelihood such assaults would be launched if a surviving daughter or son-in-law were involved, and would be even less likely to have any legal traction. Wills remain frail instruments in these situations; court cases a very expensive proposition for actions that should not have been allowed in the first place.

next page

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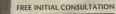
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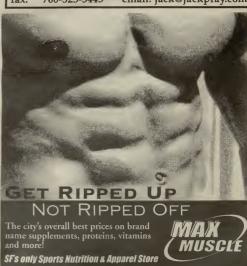
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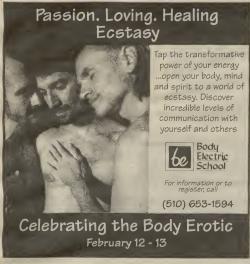
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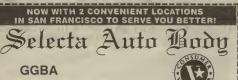
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Mailstrom

previous page

Equally important as partnership and property rights is the message such predatory families give gay men and lesbians: your love and relationships deserve neither our recognition nor esteem, they are beneath our consideration, for we are your lover's true and only family and we call the shots because we have the institutions and laws of society to validate our position.

A new development in my own situation was the receipt of a notice from the Contra Costa County Tax Assessor's office telling me that my lover's death em-

receipt of a notice from the Contra Costa County Tax Assessor's office telling me that my lover's death empowers it to increase the taxes on our home of 23 years and demanding an immediate payment. The office also tells me this would not occur had I been a nuclear-type husband with a dead, nuclear-type wife in that sanctified arrangement aptly called "the nuclear family" — a designation that evokes the image of a detonation followed by a mushroom-shaped cloud laden with noxious fallout for those within its range. Again, even more important than the monetary damage this action does is its message and what may be concluded from it: irregardless of our personal involvement in a particular issue, any shaft delivered to LGBT citizens by the privileged, straight horde wounds the dignity and integrity of our community.

'Self-absorbed' smoker's tale

This is regarding the letter, "Attention smokers" by Roger Davis in the December 30 issue. Mr. Davis wrote that "a smoker who lights up in a bar in the presence of non-smokers" is "an inconsiderate, self-

presence of non-smokers" is "an inconsiderate, self-absorbed person."

A couple of weeks ago the last bar left where I could expect to enjoy both smoking and drinking and maybe even sex on the premises began enforcement of the smoking ban. I was told, not even by an em-ployee but by a patron, that I should extinguish my cigarette or retreat to the brightly lit back "patio," an area with less charm than a demolition site and no

cigarette or retreat to the brightly lit back "patio," an area with less charm than a demolition site and no place to sit except for some stairs. Only a few years before I began frequenting this bar in the late 1960s, the ABC [Alcoholic Beverage Control] had been prone to closing down San Francisco bars for serving my kind. Now in the 1990s I was being asked to leave by a fellow patron who apparently viewed himself as an agent of the health department. I guess it's a good thing that like most gay men of my time and place, I appreciate irony. But I also think that perhaps I have wasted a lot of time in this town, indeed in this my birth state, if as I approach my 60th, I'm denied an enclosed public space where I can eat, drink, and smoke comfortably. Last year I wrote to Assemblywoman Migden pleading for some diversity in public smoking arrangements and was told that employees need protection from my kind. Call me "inconsiderate" and "self-absorbed" if you will, but it's my opinion the employees of that particular bar would like to be able to smoke too. I no longer patronize anything but fastfood restaurants in San Francisco. Now I guess I'll have to stay out of even one more bar in addition to all those I already avoid. Militant non-smokers have it their way almost everywhere. Can't they just control themselves in a few places or stay out? And can't the authorities lay off until this totalitarian nonsense can be legally done away with?

San Francisco

Supports Vermont decision

This is to express my support of the decision made by the Vermont Supreme Court in the case of Baker v.

State.

It is my hope that the Vermont Legislature would act with all due speed and grant domestic partnership benefits to same-sex couples who reside in Vermont.

I do not agree with the position taken by some in favor of same-sex marriages. If the Knight initiative passes in March 2000 then it would be a setback for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community.

It is my opinion that the "separate but equal" idea of "marriage" and "same-sex marriage" is inherently unequal.

unequal.

San Francisco

Shelter plan needs to consider neighborhood

The proposal by the Reverend Jim Mitulski to bus "homeless gay youth" into Noe Valley is a big mistake. A city neighborhood is just as vulnerable as a forest habitat. We try to control the negative consequences of making changes to the forest, right? In the same way we should control the negative consequences of way, we should control the negative consequences of making changes to our neighborhoods. That's where Mitulski fails. His plan doesn't pro-

vide for increased street cleaning to sweep up the used condoms and needles that will be discarded on the sidewalk. Not to mention the urine, vomit, and excrement that will also come. And his plan doesn't pro-

vide for additional police personnel, to control the in-

vide for additional police personnel, to control the increase in drug dealing.

I've lived in the Haight Ashbury neighborhood for 25 years. If you want to see what decades of half-baked plans like Mitulski's can do to a neighborhood, just take a stroll along Haight Street, near Golden Gate Park. Do we want Noe Valley to look like that?

Plans for homeless shelters should be environmentally responsible. That means taking into account public sanitation and safety. Otherwise, we're just clear-cutting our own neighborhoods.

Arthur Evans

The moron churches

Read the article on the moron [sic] and catholic [sic] churches donating moneys to the No On Knight initiative a couple of issues back. On Sunday December 23, in the Examiner on page A-5, I read where the Catholic Church spent \$5 million to defeat Michigan's assisted suicide initiative last year.

These people do not want you to stick your nose in their business, but have no morals or questions about sticking theirs into other peoples' business, using whatever god they choose to blame for the intrusion into others' lives.

Tax-exempt status? I don't think so

Tax-exempt status? I don't think so.

Reverend Vernon Link San Francisco

More on those air district directors

Thank you for publishing my letter, "Shame on air district directors" in the December 17 issue. On January 4, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District amended its offer to include domestic partner health benefits. Sadly, the air district board continues its anti-labor position demanding that employees give up their right to negotiate future contracts. Impasse has been declared and our contract will be scheduled

has been declared and our contract who was a for mediation.

While I probably owe Mr. Yaki a "thank you" for that 11th hour change in the board's offer, I cannot help but take issue with his defense of the district's position on partner health benefits published here last issue. ["Yaki airs response on DPs," Mailstrom, January 6.]

when negotiations began in March 1998 the employees asked for domestic partner health coverage similar to that enjoyed at our sister regional agencies ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments) and MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission). Both these agencies, like ours, are contracted with Calperbe for their medical plans. Both agencies also CalPERS for their medical plans. Both agencies also provided domestic partner coverage using ancillary providers. The board turned its back on this solution providers. The board turned its back on this solution months before Carole Migden shepherded through AB26, opening CalPERS to domestic partner coverage. So I say to all our directors, attending domestic partner ceremonies at City Hall is simply not enough. If any of this comes as news to Mr. Yaki, he should hold his door open to the district's upper management for an explanation – not to me.

William Taylor

It was beautiful

In our fabulous community we took good care of In our fabulous community we took good care of our own on Christmas. I chose to be with many beautiful seniors and longtime friends downtown. I found it at Aunt Charlie's on Polk Street for Christmas dinner; also, Lee-Ona's bar first for great cocktails. Yes San Francisco still has that old-time religion. May we never lose it. Congratulations to Joe and Bill and Lee-Ona's. It was beautiful.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier II, Esq.

Register to vote

Questions always arise before elections as to who can register and vote in California elections. Califorcan register and vote in California elections. Camoria law states that a person may register to vote if s/he is a citizen of the United States, a resident of California, at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election, and not in prison or on parole for the con-

viction of a felony.

There are two important items to considered in the above; 17-year-olds who will be 18 on or before March 7, 2000 are eligible to register to vote immediately. In addition, persons who have been convicted of a felony but who are no longer in prison or on pa-

of a felony but who are no longer in pisson of on parole are also eligible to register to vote.

Voter registration forms are available by mail by calling 1-800-345-VOTE. The registration deadline for the primary election is February 7, 2000.

Bradley J. Clark, Registrar of Voters County of Alameda

Send signed letters, with daytime phone number for verification, to the *Bay Area Reporter*, 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 04103.

Gays in military erupts in presidential campaign

by Wayne Friday

he question of whether or not gays and lesbians should be allowed to serve openly in the American military exploded last week among both Democrat-ic and Republican candidates and is on the verge of becoming a major campaign issue in the 2000 presidential election.

When questioned about the subject at a January 5 New Hampshire debate, Vice President Al Gore and former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley both said that if they were elected president they would require their appointees to the Joint Chiefs of Staff to fully the Joint Chiefs of Staff to support homosexuals as openly in the military, though Gore and Bradley had previously said the current Clinton adminis-tration's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was a failed one, the appar-ent embrace of a lit-mus test for military leaders on the

leaders on the issue brought **Our Man** condemnation

of both candidates, predictably, from the six Re-

dates, predictably, from the six Republicans running for president. The following night, at the same New Hampshire location, all of the GOP candidates quickly took issue with the pledges made by Gore and Bradley; the gays in the military issue became the political lightning rod that seemed to dominate both debates. While a couple of GOP hopefuls, John McCain and George W. Bush in particular, said they were satisfied particular, said they were satisfied with the current DADT policy, others like **Gary Bauer**, a onetime Reagan White House aide, and **Alan Keyes**, a former ambassador and the only African American running, took the opportunity to not only attack the idea of gays and not only attack the idea of gays and lesbians allowed to serve openly in the military, but attacked the premise of gays and lesbians being in the service under any circumstance, with Bauer calling the idea "idiotic," and Keyes vowing that he would "return to the ban on gays serving in the military."

Staye Forbase the military.

Steve Forbes, the millionaire publisher who is the son of the ate Forbes magazine founder Malcolm Forbes, who was widely thought of as being bisexual, stated his opposition to gays in the military by snapping that "the military is not an agency for social experimentation."

The sixth Republican candidate in the race, Utah Senator Orrin Hatch, himself no friend of Urin Hatch, himself no friend of gays and an opponent of gays in the military, changed the subject by bringing up the "under-equipped and under-financed" military in general.

There is a clear difference between the two Democratic candidates the programme of the company of th

tween the two Democratic candidates and the six GOP presidential hopefuls on this issue. Frankly, both Gore and Bradley feel that gays should be allowed to serve openly in the military without any harass-ment or discrimination, while all the GOP candidates are to one degree or another against any gays and lesbians serving in the military. Bush and McCain are begrudging-ly willing to allow the current DADT policy to remain in effect. It should also be noted that after being under fire for less than a full

day from the nation's top military



A memorial to Dick Pabich at Market and Sanchez streets.

brass, Gore backpedaled from his earlier statement that he would require his appointees to the Joint Chiefs of Staff to support his proposed policy that gays be allowed to serve openly in the military. While Gore did not back down from his

commitment to allow gays and lesbians to openly serve, he did say that the so-called litmus test for Joint Chiefs candidates was not meant to suggest top military leaders would be excluded if they did not agree with him. "I did not Friday

mean to imply that there should ever be any kind of inquiry into the personal political opinions of officers in the U.S. military," Gore stated.

Gore stated.

Gore, like Bradley, has put an especially strong emphasis on the gay and lesbian vote in this campaign, appealing directly to homosexuals in speeches, in meetings with gay leaders, and in policy positions.

ings with gay leaders, and in poli-cy positions.

Gays have found increasing strength at the ballot boxes across the country, with some experts claiming that people who identify themselves as gay now make up as much as 10 percent of the elec-torate nationwide and even a bit higher in states like New York and California. With the controversial Proposition 22 (Knight initiative) Proposition 22 (Knight initiative) on the March ballot in California, turnout among gay and lesbian voters is expected to be even high-er than usual and both the Gore

er than usual and both the Gore and Bradley camps are acutely aware of that fact.

Additionally, a national Gallup Poll released last month showed that 70 percent of those responding said they support allowing gays in the military. However, 76 percent of those in senior military ranks are known to oppose said. ranks are known to oppose gays and lesbians in the military under nearly any circumstance.

The comments by Gore and Bradley last week in New Hampshire about the "litmus test" threat-ens to become a tool of the Republicans against whichever Democrat becomes the nominee. The Republican National Committee quickly put together a television ad on Gore and Bradley's comments that is reportedly already airing in New Hampshire. With both Democrat-ic presidential candidates clearly lined up in support of allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the armed forces and Republican presidential hopefuls firmly op-posed to the idea, the gays in the military issue is destined to be-come one of the hot-button issues of the 2000 campaign

Politics and people

Friends will say good-bye to-morrow (Friday, January 14) to **Dick Pahich**, a longtime gay rights activist and political con-

sultant, who died January 1 at the age of 44. I met Dick when he was 20 years old, having first met him during **Harvey Milk**'s unsuccessful campaign for state Assembly. A terrific guy, so much younger than most of us, Dick always than most of us, Dick always knew the right thing to do; Harvey trusted him completely and treasured his friendship and counsel as he did few others. I visited Dick in the hospital last month and as desperately ill ās he was, we spoke of politics, some of his friends, and where the gay rights movement was headed. Dick was very much a part of what has happened to the gay rights movement here in the past 25 years and though we have lost thousands to AIDS, none will be missed more than Dick Pabich. A tribute takes place tomorrow, 4

missed more than Dick Pabich. A tribute takes place tomorrow, 4 p.m., at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street, at Geary. Reform Party presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan was in the Bay Area last weekend attending a couple of fundraisers and trying to persuade some of his Republican fans to "join the movement" with him to the Reform Party; Buchanan reportedly arrived at the airport with not a single reporter or photographer waiting for him.

In Vermont, where the state Supreme Court recently ruled that

Supreme Court recently ruled that legislators must come up with a solution guaranteeing that all Ver-monters must receive the protec-tions and benefits which flow from a civil marriage, a key state Senate leader called last week for serious leader called last week for serious debate on gay marriage itself, not just the domestic partner alternative that many of his colleagues prefer. Senator Jeb Spaulding, a Democrat representing Vermont's Washington County, is the most prominent Senate leader to date to advocate amending state marriage statutes so that gays and lesbians could wed.

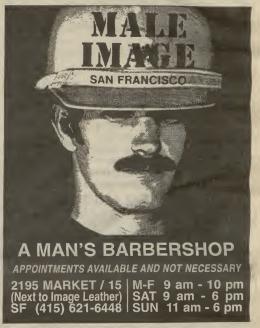
Both Al Gore and Bill Bradley are scheduled to appear February 11-13 at the state Democratic Party convention being held at the McEnery Convention Center in

San Jose.

In the New Hampshire primary (February 1), the South Carolina primary (February 19), and the important Michigan primary (February 22), the large number of voters in all three states registered as "independent" may vote in either the Republican or Democratic primary, which is why Bradley and McCain, neither the favorite of their party machinery, are polling so well. In South Carolina especially, where as many as 400,000 veterans are thought to olina especially, where as many as 400,000 veterans are thought to be largely independent, McCain could well win the GOP primary. Could the independent voter, not aligned with either major party, eventually nominate and elect the next president?

Incidentally, in order to particpage 21 ▶









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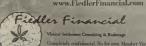
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Gays in military showers

by Dale Carpenter

t all comes down to the showers, doesn't it? Sure, some experts defend the military's anti-gay policy with abstruse concepts like "unit cohesion." But those are just words. Behind the words is sexual anxiety about homosexuals. A retired Marine commandant who helped design President Clinton's "Don't Ask, t all comes down to the show ident Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy recently said on national television that on national television that he would be uncomfort-able sharing "body heat" with a gay soldier on a cold battlefield. It's tempting to laugh at the paranoia behind that kind of talk. But

OutRight there is a serious question of sexual privacy here, one that has to be

addressed if openly gay soldiers are to serve their country.

The argument has to start with

a recognition of what the U.S. military is and what it is not. It is the most powerful and efficient killing machine in the world. That's a good thing for the liber-ties of more than 250 million peo-

The U.S. military is not an extension of civil society in smart uniforms and shiny medals. Rights that civilians take for Rights that civilians take for granted are routinely denied to military personnel. They are told when to wake up, when to go to sleep, where to live, what to do, what to say and what not to say, and they are stripped of privacy. These, too, are good things for the rest of us. Whatever we do in any area of military policy must pre-serve the effectiveness of our

fighting force.

Defenders of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" argue that mixing gays and straights in the military's at-mosphere of forced intimacy will threaten that effectiveness. In a re-cent Wall Street Journal op-ed, so-ciology professor Charles Moskos offers an analogy to male-female relations. "Nowhere in our society are the sexes forced to undress in front of each other," he observes.

So we segregate men from women in the military. "If we respect women's need for privacy from men, then we ought to respect

men, then we ought to respect those of heterosexuals with regard to homosexuals," Moskos argues.

Opponents of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" tend to dismiss this sexual privacy argument, and the male-female analogy in particular. One snickering response is that heterosexual men will now get the

same unwanted sexual objecti-fication they've given women for centuries. Unfortunately, that answer only reinforces the concerns it laughs at.
Another bad response goes to the other extreme,

ight suggesting that gay soldiers will be asexual models of propriety. Let us in, it is suggested, and we won't make

sexual advances or suggestions; we won't even look at our comrades in the showers.

Back in the real world where real people feel real sexual attrac-tion while living and working in close quarters, what will it mean to have an openly gay man among all those glistening, athletic het-erosexual male bodies?

We must first recognize that the issue is not, "Shall we let gays the issue is not, "Shall we let gays serve?" Gays have always served in the military and always will. The issue is, "Shall we let gays who serve be honest about being gay?" We can segregate men from women, or exclude women, but

either way we'll know who is who. The military can't effectively segregate gays, can't effectively ex-clude gays, and can't always know who is who. That makes the whole

who is who. That makes the whole question different from rules governing men and women.

Under present policy, the straight soldier doesn't know who might be leering at him in the shower. So he has to wonder about everybody – hardly a reassuring prospect. Under a policy of openness, he'll have a better idea who might find some of his 2,000 body parts especially appealing. body parts especially appealing Thus, he can take whatever modest precautions are available to minimize his exposure.

minimize his exposure.

Although openly gay soldiers will not be sexless, my hunch is they'll be hypersensitive to the perception that they're constantly on the make (a perception straight men don't always mind when it comes to women). So, unlike straight men drooling after women, onenly gay military perception. women, openly gay military per-sonnel will likely be especially careful not to let their eyes wander or their hands linger in places they're not welcome.

The male-female analogy also The male-female analogy also misses the gay-straight dynamic in important ways. In the male-female context, the anticipated sexual aggressors (heterosexual males) are in the majority. Their aggression is often approved and even encouraged by their peers. Under those circumstances, the need for formalized separation from the objects of their desire is from the objects of their desire is

from the objects of their desire is understandable.

In the gay-straight context, on the contrary, the anticipated sexu-al aggressors (known gays) are a tiny minority of the whole. Their aggression is disapproved by their peers, and therefore far less likely to occur or be as intimidating when it does.

Because straight men and women are the overwhelming majority in the military, the expected problems associated with mixing them in close quarters would be frequent and spread. Mixing straights with a tiny number of openly gay per-sonnel, on the other hand, would sonnet, on the other hand, would occasion comparatively few inci-dents. To say it would impair the military's effectiveness is silly. Too, the military separates men and women because it right-

the attraction between them will be mutual. We separate straight men and women because they can't keep their hands off each

Yet straight men, some of Yet straight men, some of whom recoil even at homosexual body heat, would be the first to say they'll be strictly hands-off with gay men. I say let's take them at their word.

Winchell

◄ page 1

months of his life.

While Fisher's sentence is 12.5 years, he will be eligible for parole

years, ne will be engine for parties in about four years.

"Justice was not served today," said Winchell's parents Patricia and Wally Kutteles in a prepared statement after the proceedings.

"The parties for Capital Facility Fig.

"The sentence for Specialist Fisher was a travesty."

Pat Kutteles criticized the Army for allowing "an atmosphere of hatred and harassment that led to

Barry's death." She attributed it to a "lack of supervision and failure of leadership at the base." SLDN's co-director Dixon Os-

burn said that soldiers at Fort Campbell had contacted them since the murder "because they feared for their safety due to con-tinuing harassment." The group has "asked the Army and the De-partment of Defense to take steps to stop the harassment, but nothing has been done."
Osburn said that they hold

base commander Major General Robert Clarke responsible for the continued atmosphere of harassment and for approving the plea bargain with Fisher that dropped

balgain with Fisher that dropped the most serious charge of acces-sory to murder. SLDN has called for Clarke's resignation. It is urging support-ers to write to President Clinton, Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, and Army Chief of Staff General Eric K. Shinseki seeking that resignation "because he allowed an anti-gay climate to grow unchecked at the base" and because of "the lenient sentence" for involvement in such a brutal murder. ▼



Juvenile crime prevention initiative won't prevent crime

Lambda Letters Project

ormer Governor Pete Wilson is following state Senator Pete Knight's lead. If you can't get the California Legislature to adopt draconian legislation, take it to the people as an initiative. In this case, it's Proposition 21, the "Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Act of 1998" that will appear on the March 7 primary ballot next to Proposition 22, the "Limit On Marriages Act."

Proposition 21 is an omnibus initiative that includes most, if not all, of Wilson's failed juvenile crime legislative proposals while ormer Governor Pete Wilson

crime legislative proposals while he was governor. The question is: Why is this initiative needed? All crime in California, including gang and juvenile crime, has gone down significantly over the past

down significantly over the past decade.

Of course, one has to mislead enough California voters to pass such a measure. Not one penny or program in this initiative is designed to prevent juvenile crime. And just in case people think better of it in the future, it will take a two-thirds legislative vote to

two-thirds legislative vote to amend it.

The California secretary of state's official description describes the major provisions in the typical "tough on crime" rhetoric politicians are so fond of these days. It mandates increased punishments for gang-related felonies and changes the definition of "gang." Under the new rules, a mandatory death penalty is required for gang-related murder and such a ruling could be applied to people as young as 14.

It would impose mandatory adult court jurisdiction over juveniles age 14 years or older alleged to have committed either capital

nnes age 14 years of older angeed to have committed either capital murder or serious sex offenses. How do you feel about putting a 14-year-old in an adult prison? Youngsters, 14 and 15, who have committed less serious offenses committed less serious offenses might be tried in adult courts if a prosecutor convinces a juvenile court judge the defendant isn't "fit" for juvenile court.

But prosecutors can bypass the

But prosecutors can bypass the need to prove unfitness for 16- and 17-year-old juveniles by filing charges for over 30 different crimes directly in adult court. Plus, upon conviction, the 16- and 17-year-olds would be placed directly into adult prisons.

In addition, Proposition 21 makes a variety of changes to current law regarding the confidentiality of juvenile arrest and other

rent law regarding the confidentiality of juvenile arrest and other criminal history information. The initiative prohibits sealing juvenile records for certain serious or violent offenses committed when a minor was 14 years of age or older. Currently, sealing of these records can be ordered six years after the commission of the of-fense. This is more than enough time to determine if the youthful offender has seen the light.

The measure requires the Department of Justice to report the

AAAH! WE'VE BEEN ON TV FOR 10 YEARS complete criminal history of any juvenile felon.

juvenile felon.

The proposal changes the definition of "felony," too. Currently, for a property damage crime to be a felony, the damage costs must exceed \$50,000. Under Proposition 21 the Aller assume to the definition of the d exceed \$50,000. Under Proposi-tion 21, the dollar amount would be changed to \$400. This could turn something like keying a cou-ple of cars into a felony. Judges' hands would be tied and a 14-year-old could spend a long, long time in jail for being a pain in the butt

We will need to build more prisons, too. This measure would add a number of specific crimes to the list of violent and serious offenses, thus making these additional crimes subject to existing law related to violent and serious offenses. In addition, the measure makes statutory changes that en-sure that these new specific crimes would count as "strikes" under the

would count as strikes under the "three strikes" law.

And if it isn't bad enough to treat a child like an adult, this measure is very expensive. Handling juvenile cases in adult court, where the offenders would be eli-gible for a variety of procedural and evidentiary hearings and for jury trials, is substantially more expensive than juvenile proceedings. These new court costs are unknown, but could be in the millions of dollars annually. gang activity to be demonstrated. A person isn't a gang member un-less they devote substantial time to the gang and the alleged criminal conduct promoted or furthered the gang. This initiative broadens the definition to any loose association with a gang

member or activity.

In other words, "guilt by association" would become California

law.

Under the wording of the initiative, it would be possible to designate a group of young civil rights activists as a gang if they engage in civil disobedience. Under this initiative, ACT UP could be a gang.

Because the initiative mandates that certain crimes carry mandatory pre-trial lock-up, counties will have to build new or upgrade old – detention facilities to house the juveniles while

to house the juveniles while

These costs could be in the tens of millions to potentially hundreds of millions of dollars for initial construction, as well as

ongoing annual operating costs in the tens of millions of dollars. Adding new crimes to the "se-rious and violent felonies" list, combined with ensuring that the new offenses come under the "three strikes" law, will result in

significant state costs for prisons. These costs would increase over time as offenders receive the longer sentences. The measure could result in additional annual operational costs of tens of miloperational costs of tens of mil-lions to hundreds of millions of dollars, and one-time capital out-lay costs of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Here are some organizations opposing Proposition 21: California Council of Churches, League of Women Voters of California, Parent Teachers Association of California, American Civil Liber-ties Union (California chapters), ties Union (California Chapters), California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, the Center for Juvenile and Criminal Justice, and the Youth Law Center.

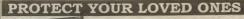
Visit www.noprop21.org to learn more about this initiative or call (415) 437-4009. ▼

Lambda Letters Project can be found on the Web at www.lambdaletters.org, e-mail LambdaLP@aol.com or write to 6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael, CA 95608.











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Holiday presence

by Jane Warner and Ron McGlashan

3 800 block of 17th Street, January 4, 2:20 a.m.: A man who couldn't sleep got up and saw shadows in his living room. Thinking it was his roommate, he called out his name. When he didn't answer, he called out louder. His roommate came out of his bed-room to see what he wanted and both men came face to face with the intrud-

er. The suspect remained very calm and told the men, "Dolores let me in." However, there was no Do-

lores around ex-cept for the nearby street. The men escorted the suspect out of the apartment and called 911. A check of the residence by police check of the residence by poince found a window screen cut and an unlocked window pushed open. The suspect is described as a white male, 35-39 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighing 155 pounds, with brown hair and a mustache, wearing a top hat and dark clothing.

Greetings

Superstar Video, 4141 18th Street, January 2, 9 a.m.: When the manager arrived for work in the morning, he found bananas smeared over the store front window and "faggot," "pussy," and "Merry fucking Christmas" written in chalk on the sidewalk. Inside the mail slot was burned paper. The suspect may have been a disgruntled ex-employee.

Jumped ship

High Gear, 600 Castro, January 4, 10 a.m.: A man tried on some jeans in a fitting room. When he came out, he had his when he came out, he had his old jeans over the jeans he was trying on and started to walk out the door. The clerk saw the "Nautica"

tag sticking out un-derneath his jeans and told him to stop, but the shoplifter ran out of the store and was last seen northbound on Castro. The sus-

as a white male wearing two pairs of jeans and a gray sweatshirt with the word, "Merona" written on the front.

Breaking ...

Breaking ...

It's Delectable, 4416 18th
Street, January 3, 6:45 a.m.:
When the owner came to work
in the morning he found the
change in the cash register missing and the weekend receipts in
the safe gone. The frame of the
rear door was cracked. Suspect is
unknown.

... and entering

Pasta Pomodoro, 2304 Market, January 3, 11 a.m.: Before the manager left the restaurant the night before, he spun the lock on the safe, locked the office

door, set the alarm, and secured the building. When he arrived for work the next morning, he for work the next morning, he found the office door open and the safe empty. There was no forced entry into the building and suspects are unknown.

Armed robbery

100 block of Church, January 3, 9:30 p.m.: A woman walked into the Rite Aid at this location and pretended to make a pur-chase at the counter. As the cus-tomer watched the cashier open tomer watched the cashier open the cash register, the suspect told the cashier to forget the sale. The suspect then produced a gun and told the employee to give her all of the money in the register. The suspect fled the area with \$250 in cash. The security guard had called in sick that night and the video surveillance unit was not working. The suspect had not touched the counter, therefore there were no counter, therefore there were no prints. The crime unit was not called due to the lack of physical evidence.

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Presidential candidates debate DADT

by Bob Roehr

he Democratic candidates for president continued to spotlight the failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy covering gays in the military at a debate last gays in the military at a debate last week in New Hampshire. Repub-lican candidates also debated the policy that has become an issue in the race for the White House. "If you become president, will

you nominate members of the you nominate members of the Joint Chiefs who only support your gay policy? In other words, will it be a litmus test?" Moderator Peter Jennings asked of Democratic presidential candidates Al Gore and Bill Bradley at a January 5 televised debate in New Hamp-

Vice President Gore replied, "I have rejected the notion of litmus tests on the Supreme Court ... [but] I think that it's a little dif-

lbut] I think that it's a little dif-ferent where the Joint Chiefs of Staff are concerned because you're not interfering with an indepen-dent judicial decision." He said he would try to change the policy in the same way that President Harry Truman integrat-ed the military. "I think that would require those who wanted to serve on the Joint Chiefs to be in agreement with that policy. So, in agreement with that policy. So,

Former New Jersey Senator



Vice President Al Gore

Bradley said, "A consultation process takes place in which you hear their views." But once a decision is made by the president, "Military people are loyal to their commander in chief... and that's what I expect them to do if I'm president of the United States and we move toward gays in the military, which I intend to do."

Gore quickly came under fire for his "litmus test" remarks. Veterans and active duty service members complained that he would politicize the military by seeking personal political views that were irrelevant to the job. Bradley said, "A consultation

By January 7, at a hastily called news conference, Gore "clarified" news conference, Gore "clarified" his remarks by saying, there should never be "any kind of inquiry into the personal political opinions of officers in the U.S. military." The Associated Press wrote, "Gore backpedals on gay policy," while the New York Times called it a "reversal."

Republican aspirants were asked the same question at their debate on January 6. On the evangelical fringe, Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes said they would rein

state a ban on gays serving at all.

Front-runner George W. Bush supported the status quo but offered his own litmus test in saying that he would not appoint anyone to the Joint Chiefs who advocated allowing gays to serve openly. In a January 9 editorial the *Times* characterized Bush's remarks as "elevating bigotry as a defining criteria for selecting military lead-

Former prisoner of war John McCain said the policy was work-ing, though perhaps it could be better implemented. He support-



Presidential candidate Bill Bradley

ed it. A few days later on the CBS public affairs program Face the Nation, he said, "If we are going to change it, I don't think we talk change It, I don't think we talk about that in a political campaign. We talk about it after we become the president and say, I'll have a review of the policy." He added, "Until people like General Colin

Powell and others give me advice to the contrary, I'll support it." That day may come rather quickly. Northwestern University professor Charles Moskos has sur-

professor Charles Moskos has surveyed the military for their opinions over a number of years. In 1992 he found that two-thirds opposed the idea of gays serving openly. But by 1998 it was down to only one-third in opposition.

Jesse Ventura, the governor of Minnesota and possible Reform Party candidate for president, also was asked for his comments on Face the Nation. The former member of the elite Navy SEAL unit strongly restated his view

unit strongly restated his view that gays and lesbians should be allowed to serve openly. "Gay people have every right to serve in the military. This is the United States of America. Who United States of America. Who am I to tell someone that they can or cannot serve their country," he said, a tone of indignation rising in his voice. "It's my country, it's their country, it's all of our country. How dare anyone say that someone is unfit to serve their country." ▼

Gore brings AIDS to the UN

by Bob Roehr

IDS was the focus of Vice President Al Gore's visit to the United Nations Mon-day, January 10. He announced that the Clinton administration will seek an additional \$100 million in international funding for next year to combat AIDS throughout the world, doubling

its current commitment.
"AIDS and other infectious diseases are the largest catastrophes in the history of modern medicine," Gore told the Security Council. "We hope this initiative will provide relief and hope to the millions of children and families around the world." But the effort is a drop in the

bucket compared to the need. More than 30 million people are infected with HIV, most in developing countries that cannot af-ford even the most basic therapy. Ten people become infected with HIV every minute of the day in sub-Saharan Africa and life expectancy has plummeted by two decades in some of those nations. The disease has struck hardest in the most educated segments of on the verge of collapse.
Peter Piot, executive director of

UNAIDS, has estimated his pro-

UNAIDS, has estimated his program needs at least \$1-3 billion annually. So far he has raised less than a tenth of the lower figure. He compared it to the billions of dollars the world spent addressing problems of "that other virus – Y2K."

Russia and China were among members of the UN that opposed the monthlong focus on AIDS that the U.S. plans during the time it occupies the presidency of the Security Council. They argued that health issues have never before come before that body and fore come before that body and are better handled by parallel agencies such as the World Health

Organization.
Gore's visit had the look and feel of a campaign event, he was there only about an hour. The in-creased funding originally was planned as part of President Clin-ton's final State of the Union address later in the month. But Clinton handed it over to Gore to try to bolster his primary campaign effort. The appearance was knocked off the front page by the blockbuster merger of America Online and Time-Warner. ewish National Fu

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Gay blood

◀ page **5**

samples, blood banks have the samples, blood banks have the technology available that would permit men who have sex with men to donate blood without danger to the donor recipients.

But the FDA is quick to point out that as a regulatory agency, they are not responsible for making sure there is expush blood to go a round.

there is enough blood to go around.
Blood Centers of the Pacific

president Dr. Nora Hirschler, responding to Leno's protest, sug-gests that the FDA should change its regulations to screen out only male donors who have had sex with men within in the last year,

"Today, we know much more about HIV and the testing is more accurate. Therefore, we believe a one-year deferral could be as effective as current guidelines to prevent transmission of HIV," Hirschler said in a statement.

The AIDS vaccine maven

by Bob Roehr

he way to really stop the spread of HIV is to shut the barn door. And the way to do that is with a vaccine," says Margaret "Peggy" Johnston. She admits it is an obvious conclusion for a research immunologist to for a research immunologist to reach. But it didn't completely hit home until she looked beyond the U.S. borders to a world where the

U.S. borders to a world where the virus already infects more than 30 million people, a number that grows each day.

Johnston's epiphany led her to become head of the effort to develop a vaccine against HIV. She is assistant director for AIDS vaccines at the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases. The programs she leads stretch far beyond the National Institutes of Health to research laboratories Health to research laboratories and clinical trials across the coun-

and clinical trials across the country and into the far corners of Asia and Africa.

You wouldn't know it simply by looking at Johnston, there are no overt signs of power. Sure, her office is bigger than most, but there is no mahogany desk, just a standard work station cubical and a circular meeting table that would be at home in a breakfast nook. Johnston is dressed casually in a charcoal blouse and purple slacks. Her dark hair is lightly ly in a charcoal blouse and purple slacks. Her dark hair is lightly frosted with gray, but at 48 she still has the powerful compact physique of a soccer player. Her voice is warm, friendly, self-confident. Any hesitation is because she wants to be clear in



NIAID's Peggy Johnston: "Silence=Death is just as applicable overseas as it is here.

explaining a complex issue. Johnston is a subtle blend of exuberance and self-control, knowledge and a readiness to admit what she does not know. She personifies candor as she traces the zigs and zags of her life on this cold blus-

Johnston always felt that she was different, just like so many gay kids do, "but it took a long time to really associate the word homosexual or lesbian with those feelings." She came to accept her sexual orientation in her 20s and shared it with her family. And she has been out at work since the

There weren't many profes-sional women as role models for

bright young girls growing up in the early 1960s, especially in the rust-belt decay that surrounded Pittsburgh. She says in retrospect, "Realizing that I didn't fit in there stimulated me more than any-thing to get out of Pennsylvania." Johnston's aspiration of be-coming a gym teacher changed in

coming a gym teacher changed in the ninth grade when a guidance counselor said, "You're too smart counselor said, foure too smart for that. You should go into sci-ence," With Sputnik circling over-head, she said, "Okay." Johnston studied at Carnegie-Mellon, got her Ph.D. at Tufts University, and went on to post-doctoral work at NIH. At each step along the way she was encouraged by mentors who shared their love of bio-

Career success

Johnston focused on interferon, a key protein that cells pro-duce when exposed to a virus. She had her own lab and an estab-lished career at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the U.S. military's crown iewel of research and training that

jewel of research and training that sits across the street from NIH.

And then AIDS hit. In 1986 Johnston decided to join 22 people, the sum total of what was then called the AIDS Program at NIH. She closed down her own lab, leaving daily bench work behind to become a scientist fadhind to become a scientist/ad

mind to become a scientist/ad-ministrator.

"I miss the lab on some days," she confesses, "But I like the breadth of these jobs," getting things started then moving on. The first paper she wrote at NIAID pushed for development

NIAID pushed for development of protease inhibitors and combination therapy. Johnston kept getting promoted in the rapidly expanding AIDS program, ultimately becoming its deputy director. But after a decade she "was ready for a new challenge."

It came in the form of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative and her epiphany concerning vaccines. Johnston became IAVI's scientific director and its first employee, in 1996. "I had seen the influence that people outside of fluence that people outside of government could have on the government," she says, "Nobody was paying attention to vaccines."

She set out to change that.

Much of her time was spent outside the U.S. "trying to in-

crease awareness, trying to build an advocacy for an AIDS vaccine from the people who most need it, those in developing countries." She says, "Silence=Death is just as applicable overseas as it is here. The leader of a country has got to The leader of a country has got to admit there is a problem and be willing to do something about it, or else nothing will happen. That is what leadership is all about."

Nearly three years with IAVI taught Johnston the political, ethical, and logistical complexities ical, and logistical complexities surrounding international research. She says, "It can't be anything other than a full partnership [with the developing countries] or it just won't work."

She also "came to appreciate that a certain amount of chaos allows creativity to flourish. If warnthing it in a box and everything it in a box and everything."

lows creativity to hourism. It everything is in a box and every-thing is too much rules and regu-lations, people will do the rules and regulations. But they won't think about what they are doing, they won't be creative or innova tive. You need a certain amount of chaos to do that."

chaos to do that."

At IAVI, "I was the one trying to put the box around the chaos. I realized after a while that for me, it's a lot more fun to be in the box and to be pushing, knocking the walls down." Johnston returned to the walls of NIAID in 1998 in the walls of NIAID in 1998, in part because she "had gotten a little too far away from the science."

Vaccine development

"Prevention is undervalued in our society," she says, largely be-cause we do it so successfully and seldom face a major threat to public health. "We need to find a way to give value to preventing something from happening."

Johnston admits that develop-

ing a preventative vaccine for AIDS poses a greater challenge than with most diseases. A princithan with most diseases. A principle reason is that few, if any, people have recovered from it. So we don't have a good handle on what parts of the immune system need to be stimulated with a vaccine to bring about protection. "We have some intellectual guesses about what it might take, but we don't leave."

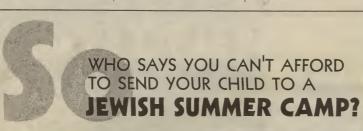
A few commercial sex workers and spouses have been repeatedly exposed to HIV and either have not become infected, or their bodies seem to be holding the virus in check. So Johnston be-lieves that there are answers to be found. Current HIV vaccine trials, both here and abroad, are trying to find some of those answers; they should not be viewed as near-finished products.

Johnston cautions that a "suc-

cessful" vaccine may look very dif-ferent from what the industrial-ized world has come to expect virtually 100 percent protection from infection with little risk. A vaccine that works only half the time may be useful in helping to reduce the spread of HIV in places with very high rates of in-fection, such as southern Africa.

Perhaps the most important reason why she is optimistic that an AIDS vaccine will be developed is the fact that "we have more bright people thinking about it now that we did two or

three years ago."
"Creativity in scientific research is an under-appreciated value," she says. "We need a van Gogh, not a paint-by-numbers" approach to capture the mysteries of HIV. Today those types of people are engaged in the process. Peggy Johnston intends to see them through to their master-



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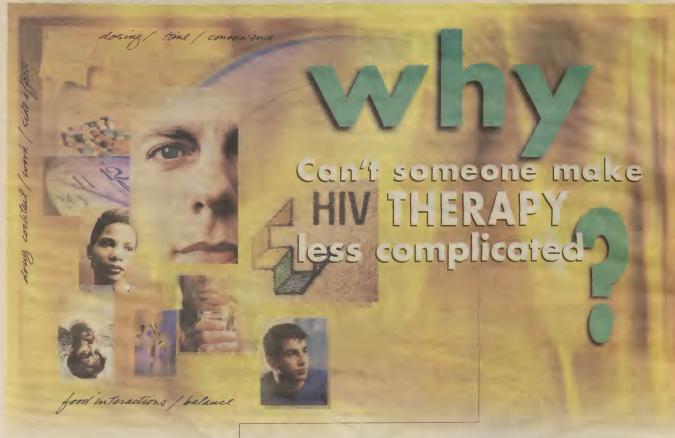


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SUSTIVA, an NNRTI*, must be used in combination with other HIV drugs.

SUSTIVA is tough on HIV. It reduces the amount of virus in your blood and increases the number of CD4 cells. SUSTIVA can even be used in young children, 3 years of age or older. This is based on results from controlled clinical trials at 24 weeks. Presently, there are no results from controlled clinical trials showing the long-term effects of SUSTIVA.

SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may

change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough.

Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

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*NNRTI - non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

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For more information on the updated DHHS Guidelines, a PDF file of the guidelines is available
at http://www.hivatisor.g

I. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV infection, Department

of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 199

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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see Can children take SUSTIVA?).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?)
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal
- . Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- · Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- . Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- · Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- · Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA: * 3

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saguinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at http://www.sustiva.com.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.



The priests, the nuns, and the preschool

By Terry Beswick

he Children's Day School, tucked behind a former con-vent across from the historic Mission Dolores Basilica on Dolores Street at 16th Street, didn't

ores Street at 16th Street, didn't even see it coming.

Three months prior to a packed San Francisco Planning Commission hearing last Thursday, January 6, after CDS applied for a permit to erect a new preschool next to their existing schoolhouse, the letters, press releases, and petitions began pour-ing into the commission offices. Many of the school's neigh-

bors, including senior and dis-abled residents of Notre Dame Plaza, a low-income housing complex in the former convent that fronts the Dolores Street property, and a few homeowners

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The Children's Day School on Dolores Street at 16th

No on Knight

◄ page 1

people short of even beginning the phone-banking, tabling, precinct-walking, and other voter outreach essential to the cam-

paign's success.

The No on Knight/Proposition
22 campaign is issuing an urgent
call for volunteers.

call for volunteers.

Many voters still don't even know that Proposition 22 is on the March ballot, said Macias, much less what the measure could do. Similar measures are being used in other states to undermine hard-won rights for gays and les-bians. If Proposition 22 passes, decades of work to achieve even a measure of equality for people of a non-heterosexual orientation

a non-neterosexual orientation could hang in the balance. But the No on Knight people and others have said these things before, and often. So where are the volunteers and donations? Are people simply not motivated on this issue?

"People here know that San Francisco will of course over-

whelmingly vote 'no' on Knight,' Macias told the Bay Area Reporter, "but that's just smoke and mirrors. We need those people to go out to Marin, to San Mateo, and outlying areas" to educate people about Proposition 22.

Activists who remember the grassroots campaigns against the backward, anti-gay, and AIDS-phebic forerunners to the Knight initiative that were thrown at gay

initiative that were thrown at gay and lesbian Californians in the 1980s might find it surprising that in the face of a measure that threatens the fundamental rights of gay and lesbian Californians today, only about 100 people have volunteered for No on Knight/Proposition 22 campaign, and some of these for only an evening or two.

Everyone needs to be aware that the Knight initiative affects more than marriage, threatening fundamental rights such as hospital visitation and domestic partnership benefits. So even those opposed to gay marriage – including members of the LGBT community - must not let their activism fall short when it comes

Financial reports for the last quarter indicate that No On Knight has raised a total of \$2.1 million, while the Yes on Knight campaign has raised \$4.9 million. campaign has raised \$4.9 million. If the campaign against Proposition 22 is to be a success, according to Conaty, money for television and radio airtime must be more than doubled. No on Knight advertisements will emphasize that voting "yes" on Knight is not a symbolic step toward traditional marriage, but a backward step that will do real harm to real people.

ple.

"Seventy-five percent of Californians know someone who is gay or lesbian," said Conaty. "If we can show them that this measure will hurt their sister, neighbor, or friend, we can defeat this." ▼

To help defeat the Knight initiative with your time or money, call the campaign headquarters at (415) 227-1020. Financial contributions can also be made via the website, www.NoOnKnight.org.

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Ellis Act

◆ page 1

the rules of renting.

the rules of renting.

"This is about as straightforward as an Ellis Act case can get," said Zacks. "Other Ellis Act cases are newsworthy. This one is not."

Under the Ellis Act, property owners can evict all tenants from shilling if they take it off the

a building if they take it off the

market.
So while McKeever's supporters say the case is the same old story of dot-com money pushing out long-term residents, others say that story serves as a disguise for McKeever's abuse of his privileges.

Poodle problems

McKeever thinks the battle goes deeper than both money or property rights, however, describ-ing a relationship gone sour over a minor altercation

minor altercation.

"We had a friendship. I'd go up to their place for dinner," McK-eever said. The couple and McK-eever apparently co-existed cheerfully for most of the five years that Andrade and Chapman have owned the house. Then, last Autority and the said of the five years that Auditably said to the said of the five years that Auditably said to the said of the five years that Auditably said to the said of the five years that Auditably said to the said of the five years are said to the said of the said of the five years are said to the said of the gust, an elderly woman across the

street died, and her husband asked McKeever to take care of their poodle for a month while he visited relatives overseas. The landlords objected, McKeever called them "mean-spirited," and three weeks later a lawyer came to the door, eviction notice in hand. "A lot of landlords use the Ellis

Act to make money; this is a case of retaliation," said McKeever. "They live in an enormous house. They don't need this space they're

They don't need this space they re taking from me."

The house, at 19 Hancock Street, is a multi-bedroom, three-story building that overlooks Dolores Park. McKeever, who has lived here for 10 years in the home's only rental unit, helped clean up the neighborhood years are, by leading the fight against

clean up the neighborhood years ago by leading the fight against drug dealers, a move that led to death threats against him and police surveillance to protect him.
"I put my life on the line to make this a decent neighborhood," said McKeever. "These guys came from Silicon Valley to live in the gay heaven that I helped create."

McKeever has enlisted the support if the San Francisco Tenants Union, the Castro Tenants Union,

and the Eviction Defense Collaborative, a group that noticed errors in the couple's legal filings, buying McKeever some extra time; he was originally served the eviction notice last September. A settlement hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, but McKeever retreated that he will not budge.

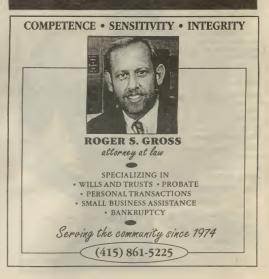
iterated that he will not budge.

"I am determined not to be kicked out," said McKeever, who lives on a Social Security check of \$840 a month. "I've got to stay. It's a matter of survival."

Zacks, however, said that while Andrade and Chapman empathize with the fact that McKeever is in poor health, "That's not the owner's issue."

"He's sick and we feel badly," said Zacks, "but that's the city's issue. He should be able to get a low-rent apartment through one of the nonprofit assistance the nonprofit assistance

groups."
Whether McKeever is indeed an awful tenant or Andrade and Chapman are just another pair of greedy homeowners are opinions that remain subjective. The one fact that remains is that McKeever, a gay man with historical roots in the Castro, soon may find himself without a home. ▼







William Owen, Jr., M.D.

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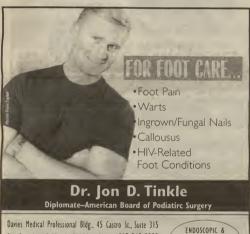
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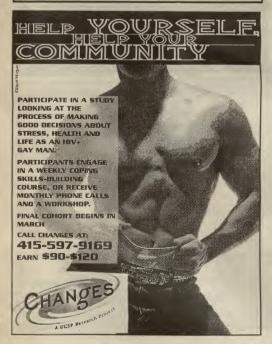
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Twelve people needed to complete medical marijuana study

by Matt Sharp, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

he first medical marijuana trial in people with AIDS is nearing completion at San Francisco General Hospital. Since its inception, the study has been its inception, the study has been fraught with difficulties, and many people wondered if it would ever happen at all, let alone get this far. But the trial is now in its final months, seeking only 12 people to com-plete enrollment. Then,

forthcoming.

data will be analyzed and important answers will be

After several painstaking years, initial battles with federal regulatory agencies, and significant problems with enrollment, the small but important study soon will be answering groundbreaking research questions on medical marijuana in people with HIV. It is commendable that the community consortium under community consortium under Dr. Donald Abrams's leadership has committed to a most puzzling

has committed to a most puzzling and politically charged study of this medicinal agent.

Studying a controlled substance is difficult enough. Scrutiny from officials is unusually high. Add a specific disease group such as HIV as the study population, consider all the logistics of delivery and data management. delivery and data management, and you have a very complicated study. Without the tight control and careful design however, the trial would never gather the important answers it is trying to uncover.

The trial began enrolling patients in May 1988 and today only needs 12 more people to reach the target enrollment of 66. People who pass the initial screening are asked to stay at the hospital for 25 nights without visitors and cannot leave the site. Since the Gentral Beautiful Brasseries Contract Contract not leave the site. Since the General Clinical Research Center at SFGH can only house three people at a time, and the logistics of controlling the delivery of smoked marijuana three

times a day is so prob-lematic, the study has been difficult to complete. However, to the credit of the researchers and the study participants, the trial is nearly over. If

trial is nearly over. It the remaining participants are enplanned, it could be completed in Medicinal

planned, it could be completed in four months.

Medicinal marijuana has been used for centuries by cultures across the world. Many other studies have been performed. Roz Leiser, study coordinator commented, "This is the first controlled study looking at the positive effects of medicinal marijuana in 20 years. Other studies of marijuana only looked at its damaging effects, but none looked at the benefits, especially in people with HIV. It's really a groundbreaking study that will open the door to other controlled clinical studies of marijuana."

The study's goals are to look at the most to live and the studies of marijuana."

The study's goals are to look at the metabolic interaction between marijuana and indinavir (Crixivan) or nelfinavir (Viracept), two widely used protease inhibitors, and also will look at the interaction of marijuana and the immune system. It will compare oral dronabinol capsules to smoked marijuana to oral placebo capsules. A final objective will be to look at the variables associated with HIV wasting syndrome and the short-term use of smoked marijuana.

marijuana.

Participants must be taking a stable antiretroviral regimen, of which one of the protease inhibitors is indinavir or nelfinavir. They must have smoked marijuana in the past, but not within 30 days of enrollment in order to start with a clean slate. No cigarette smoking within 30 days of enrollment is allowed, and no anabolic agents, Megace, thalidomide, IL-2 or any drug that may alter immune function is allowed.

But the biggest limitation of the

But the biggest limitation of the study is the willingness to enroll and stay at the GCRC for 25 days with limited visits from relatives or friends. Leiser stated, "Participants can't have visitors because of the nature of the study. But all studies can't nave visitors because of the nature of the study. But all studies of controlled substances are done in this manner because of legal is-sues. It's a highly scrutinized study and must be done carefully and by the book in order to get the answers we are seeking."

But, the researchers have gone

But, the researchers have gone out of their way to make the 25 days comfortable and accommodating to participants. One woman who completed the study in November said, "The nurses treated us so well. They tried their hardest to make the time pass quickly." Videos, television, books, and Internat exerct are all provided for ternet access are all provided for patients. While no exercise equip-ment is on hand, participants can ment is on hand, participants can bring in anything they might use for exercise. One participant simply ran up and down the stairs every day to get his cardiovascular exercise. Of course, all the food participants need is provided. Leiser added, "Some look at this study as a means for a "retreat" or breaking away from their normal day to day routine. Most people have enjoyed it. Some participants even wanted to do it again!"

One definite incentive is the payment of \$1,000 for completion of the study. San Francisco Gener-

of the study. San Francisco Gener-al might be an inviting place if you were homeless or living in a single room occupancy hotel. All the free food you could want, a TV, Internet access, and \$1,000 can make a difference. A former participant stated, "I never ate so much food and I met some new friends. I'm glad I did it; it was fun."

There is a certain amount of altruism in a trial of this nature despite the fact that one consortium staff member said some people have sought out the study, coming from across the country to participate. Given that, no one said a trial of this nature would be easy. Participants are asked to make certain sacrifices. But those sacrifices will enable the research to get done and hopefully important answers will come that may lead to the end of intimidation and fear of use of medical mari-juana. ▼

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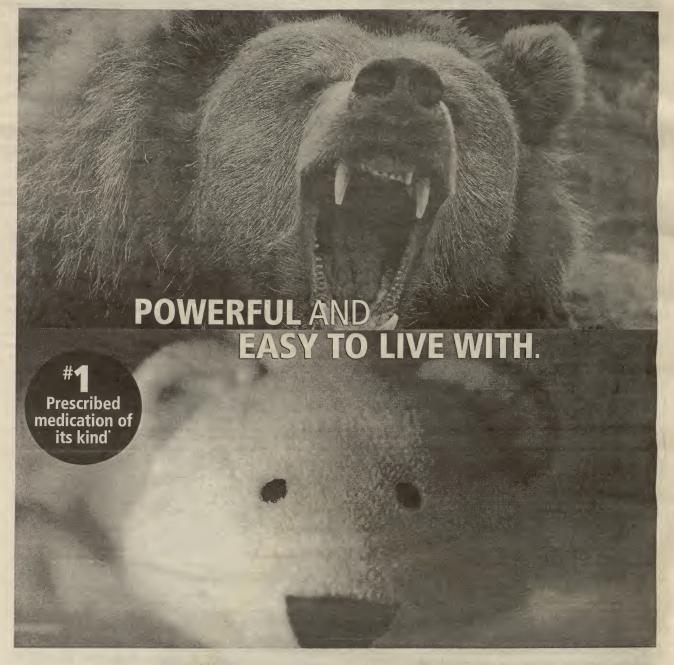
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WE ARE SEEKING LIV POSITIVE AND LIV NEGATIVE HEAVY DRINKERS AGES 21-55 TO PARTICIPATE IN A UCSF/VA MEDICAL CENTER STUDY. THIS NEUROLOGICAL RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT, INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING.

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For more information about the study, call (415) 502-5705.

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(The clinical significance of changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.) VIRACEPT IS EASY TO LIVE WITH

VIRACEPT nelfinavir mesylate

Take it three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks. VIRACEPT IS

GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea of moderate or greater intensity in 20% of people in clinical trials. VIRACEPT WORKS It's indicated for the treatment of HIV

infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some

HIV related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus

and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia.

Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit

www.agouron.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)





Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept) Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count. VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovira (diovoudine, AZT), Epivira (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerita (stavudine, 44T), Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the bood (viral load) and raises CD4 counts. VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposis sarcoma. It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur. There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

who should not should not provided the surface of the should be aware that if you rebaby does not already have HIV. There is a chance that if your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that if you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feed if they have HIV.

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

- Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:
 Seldane" (terfenadine, for allergies)
 Hismanal" (astemizole, for allergies)
 Propulsid" (cisapride, for heartburn)
 Cordarone" (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
 Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute", Cardioquin", Quinidex", and others
 Ergot derivatives (Cafergote and others, for migraine headache)
 Halcione" (triazolam)
 Versed" (midazolam)
 Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.
 Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactanee", Rifadin", Rifatere, or Rifamatee
 This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:
Phenobarbital
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
Carbamazepine (Tegreto!® and others)
These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
Oral contraceptives ("the pill")
If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food. Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)

- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)

- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)

- Videx* (didanosine, dd1)

Videx* (didanosine, ddl)

If you are taking both Videx (ddl) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty tomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before stomach: Therefore, you should take virious the fidex.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

When VIACCET is aken together with.

Viramune" (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:
When VIRACEPT is taken together with:
Crixivan* (indinavir).
The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
Norvir** (Irtinavir)
The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
Invirase* (saquinavir)
The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Disarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild didarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the Illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating. Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or

feeling better.

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label. The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)
The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age
The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or
9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered
either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.
Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the
measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and
age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily Body Weight Number Tablets to < 8.5 15.5 to <18.5 8.5 to <10.5 18.5 to <23 23 to <26.5 10.5 to <12 26.5 to <31 13/4 12 to <14 31 to <35 35 to <39.5 14 to <16 16 to <18 21/4 10 to <23 39.5 to <50.5 18

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing mediteation should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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Agouron

La Jolla, California, 92037, USA

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be sub-mitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Grant Dupont



Grant Dupont passed away quietly on Thursday, De-cember 30, 1999 at St. Mary's Hospital from complications due to AIDS. Grant was born in South Africa on February 6, 1962 and spent

his childhood there. He later moved to Amsterdam where he lived for some time and then found his way here to San Francisco.

He soon became well known in the leather community as a result of his work in modeling and bartending, as well as his employment in several local leather businesses including A Taste of Leather and Image Leather, where he added his own special flair to the wardrobes of many local leathermen and leatherwomen.

Grant also gained visibility in the community by helping out with a number of fundraisers, and by his avid participation in the Gay Pride Parade and the Leatherwalk. In 1998 he took over the reins for the Leatherwalk by serving as co-organizer, and again in 1999 as the sole organizer. Thanks to his hard work both years brought in much needed donations for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Even when not taking an active role in community events, Grant twa slaways quite visible standing on the sidelines, attired in one of his many embellished leather outfits, or dancing at a local club with his fans and flags.

Grant is survived by his loving mother shirley Hartunan and his sister Pauline Lambert; both of South Africa, as well as by his many friends, both here in San Francisco and in New Orleans, where he enjoyed many Mardi Gras and Southern Decadence Day festivities, and where he had eventually planned to move.

A celebration of Grant's life will take place on Saturday, January 29, from 2

A celebration of Grant's life will take place on Saturday, January 29, from 2

p.m. to 5 p.m. at Daddy's Bar in the Castro. All are welcome to attend. We will miss you, Grant. Wherever your journey takes you from here, may it bring your spirit peace.

John Embling September 26, 1945 -January 9, 2000



residence.

Though John was sometimes depressed and angry about his condition and the many losses he suffered, he persevered and always bounced back to his usual wit, humor and charm. He enjoyed photography, wanted to make it to Christmas and to see the new Millennium, and was hoping to see the Giants play in the new PacBell Park this spring. He is survived by his sisters, Barbara and Bobbye of Louisville, Kentucky, and

Meow. A memorial service will be held at the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park at a later date. Contact Philip Carrizosa at (415) 550-0325 for infor-

Vincent Rothschild

Vincent Rothschild, known to his friends as "Guenther," died peacefully Laguna Honda Hospital in San Franc



co on December
31, 1999.
In 1992 Vincent
suffered a series of
strokes, and was an
inpatient in need of
total care since. He
would have been 60
this coming February. I remember
him once saying he



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Gay Bar Guide founder Lou Greene dies

by Cynthia Laird

ou Greene, a popular com-munity silk-screen printer and longtime owner of the Bay Area Gay Bar Guide, died of cancer complications at San Francisco General Hospital December 27, 1999, five days short of his 85th birthday. Greene had sold his business and retired a few years ago. His home was in Brisbane. Greene was born New Year's

Day, January 1, 1915, and raised in New York City. In his early 20s, he performed and entertained with a mentalist act. Later, Greene worked in sales, design, and man-ufacturing for Koret of Hollywood ladies' wear. From 1957-1959 Greene was their representative in Hawaii and he was transferred to

South Africa from 1960-1964.
In 1965 Greene moved to San Francisco and began his silk-screen and printing business; he added button production in the 1970s. During this period he also invented a game called Mystic

Shortly after arriving in the city, Greene started the popular Bay Area Gay Bar Guide which he ran past his retirement in 1998. While distributing the *Gay Bar Guide* around San Francisco he also delivered the Bay Area Re-porter during its early days. Using



The late Lou Greene

contacts from his earlier travels, Greene wrote a column, "Travels With Lou" for the B.A.R.
Greene was well-known for his

help producing flyers and buttons for title contenders as well as the South of Market motorcycle clubs. In fact, he joined The San Franciscans in 1971 and changed membership to join the new San Francisco GDI Club in 1974, practically being a founding member of that organization, and remaining active until becoming emeritus in 1999. In 1978 Greene was named "King Father of All California" by one of the courts.

His business moved from place

to place over the years; South Van Ness and 15th Street, and 3rd Street near Bryant, a brief location until he was displaced by the 1989 earthquake and forced to move

near the Moscone Center.

Greene's buttons were also well-known; he was featured on an NBC evening newscast during the Democratic National Conven-tion in 1984 in an interview about

political buttons.

A longtime dog lover, Greene always had one as a companion. He would rescue dogs from animal control and try to find homes

for them.

Greene was famous for his trademark big cigar and always had one in his mouth, even when doing a number in club shows, whether or not he was wearing a dress. He loved attending motorcycle runs and participating in the entertainment when his club was the sponsor. However, he was known as a "lead-foot, non-stop" driver and arrived at one run with his clothes still smoking from his his clothes still smoking from his

falling cigar ash.

A memorial service and reception will be sponsored by the San Francisco GDI Club on Saturday, January 29 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Chapel, 1187 Franklin Street, at Geary in San Francisco. Greene will be missed by all his friends and club brothers. ▼

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Our Man Friday

◆ page 9

ipate in California's March 7 primary, you must register to vote by February 7. Call your registrar of voters for more information.

Sacramento gossips are saying that former San Francisco Super-visor **Jose Medina**, now head of the huge Department of Trans-portation in the Davis adminis-tration, is already in the political doghouse with a number of high-ranking state officials, among them the governor himself. U.S. Senator **Dianne Fein-stein**'s November re-election

campaign picked up influential Silicon Valley support. Computer networking giant Cisco Systems, Inc. top executive John Chambers (also among George W. Bush's biggest state supporters) is heading a group of powerful high-tech executives, along with others like **John Doeer** of the inothers like John Doeer of the Industry's Technology Network in support of the popular Feinstein. What makes the support of these numerous high-tech executives so important is that they usually give their support – and campaign bucks – to Republicans, and Representative **Tom Campbell**, Feinstein's likely GOP opponent, can do nothing but sit by wistfully.

From the don't-hate-her-because-she's-beautiful department comes word that the hated supersmitch Linda Tripp has shed a whopping 40 pounds and has had a new face-lift. "It looks like she's had a head transplant!" exclaimed the equally despised Lucianne

Goldberg.

In Augusta, Maine, the Roman
Catholic Diocese of Portland recently gave its support to a gay rights bill, saying it now contains provisions that meet church concerns. The bill, as amended, bars discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, but does not en-dorse any form of sexual behavior. And how was your week?

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REE BASIC' DENTAL SERVICES AVAILABLE IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR PEOPLE WITH HIV AND AIDS

Persons must qualify and document eligibility to receive CARE Title 1 services (letter of HIV diagnosis, residency in San Francisco, and demonstrate financial need). A complete list of requirements is available at the office during the times listed below.

Community Dental Care, Inc.

2460 Mission Street, Suite #102 (near 21st and Mission)

(415) 970-8696

Office hours: M F, 8:30 am to noon, and 1:00pm to 5:00pm *Not all dental services are covered. Details of program available from office staff during business hours



Episode II: Speeding fer Christ!

by Jim Provenzano

nder "favorite reading," race car driver Jeff Gordon* lists the Bible and racing magazines as his preferred forms of literature.

torms of literature.

His wife – and he is married, since 1993, to Brooke – is also rarely seen without her sunglasses. Brooke likes to read the Bible and other fiction. Oops, that's the Bible and fiction. To prove that they are married, Jeff* and Brooke show many pictures of them hug-ging and having gotten married. There. That should dispel those

nasty rumors.
Aside from believing that Jesus Aside from Delieving that jesus of Nazareth supported car-racing events sponsored by cancer-causing conglomerates (Dincha know the Garden of Gethsemene was chock full of tobacco plants?), Jeff Gordon* and his close friend Ray Evernham do donate used atti-Evernham do donate used arti-cles, caps, and tires for auctions to benefit leukemia and cancer dis-

benefit leukemia and cancer diseases which, of course, have been proven to be linked to – you got it, the petrochemical industry.

Peruse the "Fan Club Regions" on the official site, listing various sections of the U.S. in a map divided up not unlike an attack plan. Different devotees of Jeff Cordon's propose acceptor.

Gordon* manage each sector.

I e-mailed a few of the region al fan club organizers, asking if they were aware of the rainbow flag being a symbol of interna-tional multicultural LGBTQQ-FTM-MTF pride, and what with Jeff being a Christian, and apparently heterosexual, if that was ... inconsistent, or if his rainbow symbolizes a shorter acronym.

The rainbow existed far be-The rainbow existed ar be-fore the current usage by the al-ternative lifestyle crowd. It dates back to the Old Testament ... rainbow also means good things for those of Irish and other descents. To further it ... veven have a town in South Dakota called Gayville ...

and it is not a commune for alternative lifestyles. (It was named over a century ago for happiness).

Fan club, sector 5: "No comment other than there is no relationship between the two."

And the official statement:

And the official statement:
Your E-mail was forwarded to
this office for processing. There is
no significance. As you correctly
pointed out – Jeff is married and a
Christian.

Thank you for your comments.

Russ Harris National Coordinator Jeff Gordon National Fan Club

Gary Laver, Canadian Coordina-Jeff Gordon National Fan

"My reply is strictly my per-sonal opinion and does not nec-

sonal opinion and does not nec-essarily represent the opinions of the fan club or Jeff Gordon. "The paint scheme on the car was dictated by DuPont when they signed on as primary spon-sor to Jeff Gordon's car. The crew name of Rainbow Warriors came about due to the rainbow on the car. The fact the rainbow is the car. The fact the rainbow is the



Tool time: NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon re-boned and de-rainbowed.

symbol of gay and lesbian pride is nothing more than a coincidence. The scheme on the car was meant to be colorful, some

thing that would stand out on the track. Also, the rainbow stripes were an attempt to appeal to the young fans of NASCAR**. A lot of young fans know Jeff as the guy who drives the rain-**Sports**

bow car.

"Although connection gay and tions to the gay and lesbian movement lesbian movement make for good gossip and hearsay,

the paint scheme on the car and the nickname of the crew are to-tally unrelated. It's like saying Earnhardt drives a black can so he must be promoting the black movement within the U.S.A. Again, totally unrelated."

Complex

Thanks for that objective non-

American voice of reason.
It should be noted that Jeff
Gordon* abandoned the rainbow in the promos for his sci-fi video game. Instead, his uniform takes on the silvery theme of perpetual Priapism, answering the query, "its that a wrench in your pocket or are you glad to see me?"

In need of queer-ification, I called famed rainbow flag designer Gilbert Baker.

"The guy sounds a little clue-less," said the Betsy Ross of the gay community, whose mile-long rainbow flag was a highlight of

Stonewall 25. Baker, of course, knows the many interpretations of the rainmany interpretations of the rain-bow, specifically in the Old Testa-ment***, in which, apres le deluge, God – in a rare actual speaking engagement – promised not to drown everybody again by offer-ing a colorful arc of defracted light; certainly no irongled conlight; certainly no iron-clad con-tract, and by the look of recent disasters, a contract in serious

Baker reminds us that, unlike the New Testament - whose school colors are violent, blood red - the rainbow is simply the most inclusive of symbols, from leprechauns to the impish Brent Nicholson Earle, an out gay ath-lete who used our rainbow flag to promote queer jocks and their fight against AIDS. But does Baker think Jeff Gor-

don* is trying to subversively con-

don' is trying to subversively convey the message that it's okay to be a gay speed demon?

"Gay people are using it as a political statement," he said. "For him it seems like a decorative ornament. Either he's trying to fake us out or he's just a fashion victim".

The sunglasses, and stuffed basket, confirm that theory. ▼

*Jeff Gordon is a registered name and copyright of JG Motorsports, Inc. **NASCAR is a registered trademark of some car-racing club.

***Neither the Bible, the rainbow flag, nor the rainbow are registered or trade marked.

Supreme Court dodges AIDS

by Bob Roehr

an health insurance companies set lower lifetime caps for coverage of HIV than for other diseases? AIDS advocates have argued that the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits such discrimination. But federal

courts have not always agreed.

The U.S. Supreme Court refused to enter the fray Monday, January 10, when it declined without comment the case of *Doe v. Mutu-*

al of Omaha Insurance Company. The lawsuit began when two anonymous plaintiffs, "John Doe" and "Richard Smith," sued Mutual of Omaha for limiting lifetime coverage of their health insurance policies to \$25,000 and \$100,000 respectively for HIV. The company capped many other medical problems at \$1 million, but imposed lower limits on coverage of alcoholism, drug addiction, and

mental illness.

A Chicago trial judge in 1998 ruled that Mutual of Omaha vio-

lated the ADA. The company appealed the decision, winning when the panel ruled 2-1 that regulation of insurance companies is a matter of state not federal jurisdiction and therefore not subject to the ADA. Now it was the plaintiffe' turn to appeal this time. to the ADA. Now it was the plain-tiffs' turn to appeal, this time to the full 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. It deadlocked at 5-5. "We are disappointed that the court will not provide much need-

ed guidance to the lower courts on this life and death issue," said Heather C. Sawyer, an attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which assist-

and Education Fund, which assisted in the appeals process.

"The court did not, however, give a green light to this practice," she said. "In declining to review the justices merely indicated they are not ready to rule at this time."

The court's decision lets the willing stand within the 7th Circ.

ruling stand within the 7th Circuit, which encompasses Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. It leaves a patchwork of legal precedents in different jurisdictions across the country.

Preschool

◄ page 17

just over the fence from the school's urban oasis of open air, trees, children, chickens, a sheep, and two goats, were deeply op-posed to the CDS expansion. As Thursday's hearing ap-proached, both sides escalated the

war of words, moving beyond the standard letters and petitions, and into almost a full-scale campaign. There were T-shirts, pickets, lawyers, and innuendo.

But in the end, it was CDS that

won the commission's favor. The nonprofit school, in its current location since 1987, won city approval to tear down two small existing structures near their main schoolhouse, and put up a new building to house the school. Without the addition, school of-ficials said, CDS would be forced to eliminate its preschool pro-gram to make room for the addition of about 50 sixth, seventh

tion of about 50 sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to its aging 187-member student population.

Carl Tebell, and other seniors whose Notre Dame apartments overlook the school yard or its driveway, are opposed to the new preschool primarily because of commuting parents dropping off commuting parents dropping off and picking up their kids. "I get all the exhaust fumes

right under my window," said

Tebell, 66, one of several gays or lesbians among 90 Notre Dame

In typical San Francisco fashion, the commission had tried to kick the hot potato back to the neighborhood last fall, asking the school to convene a series of community meetings to address the seniors' "fear, stress, and anxiety" over traffic, car exhaust, a disover traffic, car exhaust, a dis-eased tree that must be cut down, decreased property values, loss of open space, the "foul language" and noise of the incoming older students, and other concerns expressed in testimony and correspondence by Notre Dame residents and other neighbors.

dents and other neighbors.

Another outspoken – albeit unanticipated – opponent upset about the preschool was Monsignor John J. O'Connor, formerly pastor of the Mission Dolores Basilica, situated just across Dolores Street from the Notre Dame Senior Plaza. After the plaza's property manager, Barbara Qualco, testified at last week's contentious Planning Commission hearing in favor of the school, O'Connor went to podium to de

hearing in favor of the school, O'Connor went to podium to declare that he was "shocked" that
the plaza's manager "would speak
in favor of expanding that school."
O'Connor, currently pastor of
St. Mary's Cathedral on Gough
Street, also bitterly complained of
the influx of "hundreds" of commuting parents—"outsiders" who
came in causing "noise and pollution" since the school's opening.
He further objected that a tree
would have to be cut down to accommodate construction.
Qualco's employer, Mercy
Charities, owns Notre Dame
Plaza, which the Catholic charity
purchased several years ago from

purchased several years ago from the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. But, the Sisters still own Namur. But, the Sisters still own the property behind the Plaza, and lease it to the Children's Day School, which planned to enter negotiations with the Sisters to purchase the property once the conditional use permit application was approved by the Planning Commission.

"Mercy Charities had been talking to the Children's Day School for quite a long time," Tracy Kirkham, a member of the

school's board, told the Bay Area Reporter. "We assumed that they had passed it [plans for the ex-

pansion] along to their residents."

Noting that the "Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco and Architectes of San Francisco and the Sisters of Notre Dame actual-ly litigated in court" years ago over the property rights to the huge lot containing the old convent and school hall across from Mission Dolores, Kirkham suggested that O'Connor's testimony against the school might be connected to the lawsuit, which reportedly took place during his tenure as pastor of the famous old church.

Of course, Kirkham also had a personal interest in Thursday's Planning Commission decision, as did many who showed up at last week's meeting wearing the school T-shirt, several with kids in tow. The school expansion means some of these children may get to stay in their familiar school for a few more years. The annual tu-ition for each Children's Day School student is over \$8,000. The commission had postponed deciding on the case several times in

order to allow the school to address their neighbor's concerns. Before the vote, commission-

ers amended the conditional use permit to incorporate the school's offer to help control the traffic of the morning drop-off, and to form a liaison group to work with neighbors on an ongoing basis. "I hope you leave here today with mutual respect," said the

with mutual respect," said the commission president.
But some of the school's neighbors remained unhappy.
"We're gonna take it a step further and fight it if we can with HUD (the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development)," commented Tebell a few days after the hearing. "I still think somebody got to the Planning Commission and paid 'em all."

Dorothy Allison and Alix Lay-

Dorothy Allison and Alix Lay-Dorothy Allison and Aix Layman, lesbian parents of a 7-year-old in his third year at Children's Day School, said they were "thrilled" with the decision.

"We think it's a great school for dyke parents," Allison said.
"We encourage all queers to bring their kids here."

E. Bay gay center seeks board members

by Cynthia Laird

he Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County is looking for a few good lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders to fill several open-ings on the organization's all-vol-unteer board of directors.

Margaret Walker, executive di-rector of RCC, hopes a number of qualified applicants will submit letters of interest soon. Specifically, RCC is looking for directors with interest and expertise for the following unpaid board nosifollowing unpaid board posi-

• Newsletter editor - This person should have editing and production experience to manage publication of the bimonthly *Prism* newsletter.

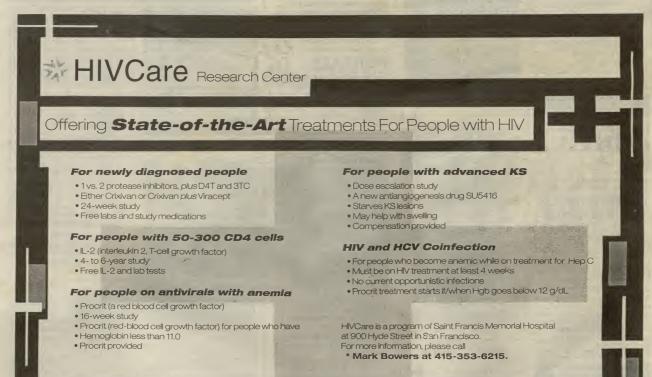
Legal – Seeking someone, preferably an attorney, with experience to assist with legal issues.
 Fundraising – This position focuses on corporate donors.

Planned giving – Seeking a planned giving professional with experience in estate planning to work with the center's finance and

fundraising committee.
• Public relations – Seeking an experienced professional in pub-lic relations in all media, includ-

ing print. Walker noted that board members actively participate in the op-eration and management of the center and fundraising efforts. In-terested candidates should mail a letter of interest and current resume to Mark King, board nomi-nating committee, Rainbow Community Center, 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500, Concord, CA 94520-2414. For information call, (925) 692-0090.

Women, people of color, bisex-uals, and transgenders are en-couraged to apply. RCC's board of directors meets on the third Wednesday of the month. ▼



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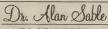
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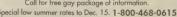
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The Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, in collaboration with the Juvenile Probation Department, Department of Human Services and Community Mental Health Services, will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for grant agreements to implement "project impact," San Francisco's Challenge Grant II project funded by the California Board of Corrections. Project Impact seeks to create a single process through which juvenile offenders with emotional disabilities will be identified, assessed, and supported through a continuum of flexible, wrap-around services. Eligible non-profit organizations with experience in providing services to delinquent youth, at-risk youth., or youth with emotional disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Copies of the RFP will be available Friday, January 21, 2000 at: Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 496 San Francisco, CA 94102

RFP applications will be due on Friday, February 18, 2000. For more information call MCJC at 415-554-6560

STATEMENT FILE NO.236953 The following person(s) are doing business as, Summer Tompkins Walker Design. 2749 Pierce Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This ng business as,

business is conducted by an individual signed Summer Tompkins Walker.The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the abov listed fictitious business name or names on N/A

The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/16/99.
DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236938
The following person(s) are doing business as, Awesome Productions. 642 Alvarado Street suite #111, San Francisco, Co. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gordon L. Elkins. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitous business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/15/99.
DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236919 STATEMENT FILE NO.236919
The following person(s) are doing business as, Su Yolu. 1439 44th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elizabeth Hewitt.The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed flictitious business name or names on 122.14.99. The statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/14/99.
DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.237212

STATEMENT FILE NO.237212
The following person(s) are doing business as, Peter Consello Fine Art. 1.43 Collingwood Street #A, San Francisco, Ca. 94.911.4.This business is conducted by an individual signed Peter William Consello. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk

of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/29/99.
JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236718

STATEMENT FILE WILL-26/128
The following person(s) are doing business as, Azteka Security, Atteca Security, 240c 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9410. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rene Quinonez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 12/03/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/03/99. 12/03/99. JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237525
The following person(s) are doing business as, CA Maintenance. 1659 30th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clindy H. Chen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 0.1/10/2000. JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.237340
The following person(s) are doing business as, TMO Design. 1620 Florida Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9411. This business is conducted by an individual signed Teresa Marie Olson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 0.10,449.9 The statement was filed with the Country Clerk of the City and Country of San Francisco, CA on 0.10,04/2000. JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

The following person(s) are doing business as, V.K. Trading Co. 147 Beverly Street, San Francisco, Co. 49432. This business is con-ducted by an individual signed Tony C. Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, Co. 40 on 0,106/2000. JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.237360
The following person(s) are doing business as, Deja View Facade Maintenance. 149 Henry Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed James T. Weep-President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 0,1/0,1/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 0,1/0,5/2000. JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.237333

STATEMENT FILE NO.237333
The following person(s) are doing business as, Diamond In The Rough Films.68 Agua Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark T. Schwab, The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 0.104/2000. The statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 0.104/2000.

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Censorship be damned 'Sin in Soft Focus': '30s films with adult themes.



From Germany mit love 'Berlin & Beyond' Film Fest opens at the Castro.

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BAYAREAREPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAIN

Vol. 30 . No. 2 . 13 January 2000



Cult filmmaker George Kuchar

Secrets of George Kuchar

His 'big UFO movie' premieres at YBC

by Gary Morris

nderground film impresario Jack Stevenson tells the story of how George Kuchar dealt with a problem that's plagued many a director. On the set of his 1961 Night of the Bomb, the film's Puerto Rican star refused to do the nude scene the script called for. Fearless George sub-stituted his own buttocks for those of the actress — born in 1942, he was at

stituted his own buttocks for those of the actress — born in 1942, he was at least about the right age.

This "can-do-in-the-face-of-chaos" attitude informs all of the work of the granddaddy of cinematic kitsch 'n' camp. With his twin brother Mike, George has been making innovative, if engagingly threadbare epics since 1954, when The Wet Destruction of the Atlantic Empire saw the light of day. The Kuchars were devotees of commercial Hollywood cinema, and tried to replicate what they saw — or filter it through their own sensibilities — using their 8mm camera and whatever locations, friends, and families were available. Other works in the comic chaos mode soon followed Wet Destruction, torrid Other works in the comic chaos mode soon followed Wet Destruction, torrid melodramas based on Kuchar favorites like Douglas Sirk's Written on the Wind. (Some of their titles are as notorious as the films themselves: Pussy on a Hot Tin Roof, Sins of the Fleshapoids, Hold Me While I'm Naked.) Many of their films had shoestring special effects that included floods, earthquakes, and tornadoes, rendered with stock footage, backyard assemblages, and matte paintings by the talented duo.

Eventually the brothers began to develop individual styles, with Mike page 34

page 34 ▶



by Roberto Friedman and Blind Item Willie

inally, after much hounding and supplication, the famous gay SF author agreed to attend the Exclaminer Xmas party with the afternoon paper's own Little Lord of three-dot journalism. Out There does inally, after much hounding dot journalism. Out There doesn't mean to suggest that Mr. San Francisco Serials was nagged to attend the affair to the point of harassment, exactly. Let's just note of his date for the evening that, al-though not so young anymore, he though not so young anymore, he still has "young" ideas about fashion, such as wearing a wild and craazy top hat — again and again. So it was awfully good of the older writer to lend his celebrity to the event, for without him, the Exclam's honorary "First Lady," movie star Sharon Stone, had exactly no other competition in

exactly no other competition in the celebrity department.

Of course, as a "professional party person," the columnist in question had only one motivation to Be Seen at the fête with a Big Name — none bigger in some circles, though we do hear that circles, though we do hear that he's dropped quite a few pounds recently. His big outing as a tro-phy date must have gone well enough, because a few days later, the esteemed author was asked out on a second date by the persistent scribe.

Now, what do *you* think when

Now, what do you think when a suitor is so relentless, dear reader? You think someone has the hots for you, and is just itching for a roll in the hay, natch! Cut to the chase: At the end of Date 2, Au-

thor duly invited the ink-stained wretch up to his pad for a night-cap, and the drinks were hardly poured when he promptly pounced on him on the sofa.

Little Lord Scribbles was shocked — shocked! The next day at work he was protesting to anyone who would listen, "B-b-but he's old enough to be my fa-ther!" Out There's advice to the blushing in-genue: When an older man invites you in for a "night-cap," it's not to give you tips on your copy style **Out There**

Back (against that wall), where you belong

That red-hot gossip sheet *The Los Angeles Times* reported last week that 21st-century diva **Barbra Streisand** was on a millennial star trip during her much-bal-



Barbra Streisand

lyhooed appearance at the MGM Grand for Y2K New Year's. "Much hilarity ensued as she was making one of her golf-cart-assisted treks through the corridors. Se-

curity ordered, 'No one is to look at Barbra Streisand!' Pedestrians turned their faces to the wall. Among them [Broad-way hoofer] Tommy Tune, who was in Vegas with his own New Year's show and found the whole thing a riot! Tune worked with Streisand in

Hello, Dolly! back in 1969, but he still followed orders." Barbra, tatellah, loosen up just a notch!

LA: It's a concept

Barbra may have her golf cart, but some time long ago in our lifetime full of discovery, we found out that for some among us, shiny new automobiles are the ne plus ultra in sex toys. Boys (and girls) and their cars!

girls) and their cars!

In case you've ever wondered what it's like at a swank auto industry launch party in a secured airplane hanger at Santa Monica Airport, wonder no more. There we were at a sneak preview party for industry and press (think Car and Driver) to witness the unveiling of two "concept cars" — sort of the haute couture of car design: you won't find concept cars at your dealership any time soon, but their features and innovations may eventually filter down to may eventually filter down to something you buy off the rack. GM rolled out concept cars in

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The Saturn CV1 concept vehicle, unveiled in Santa Monica

its Oldsmobile and Saturn divisions. Imagine the new Oldsmosions. Imagine the new Oddsmo-bile Profile rotating on a pedestal, where the go-go boys usually are, at a crowded cocktail party. The head of each division — which, interestingly, was a woman in each case — came on stage to bloviate about the darling cars, and then we were invited to in-spect the merchandise up close, all fetish-like. The 21st-century cars were upstaged by the antique fu-turistic chic of the 20th: also on display at the cocktail party was a pearlescent silver-gold '59 Fire-bird III with twin canopies and a

bird III with twin canopies and a dorsal fin.
Outside, vintage 20th-century airplanes with GM engines were parked among new models with iridescent red paint, like trashy nail polish. Inside, the '51 LeSabre, in cast magnesium, appropriately enough was aircraft-inspired in its design by classic au-tomotive designer **Bob Veryzer**.

Mayor Richard Riordan made a few remarks on stage, but he couldn't present GM executives with the key to the city because

"yesterday, I lost it." Overall the impression Riordan made was: this man is mayor of Los Angeles? He did introduce from the stage two special, special guests, former Cabinet Secretaries of Transportation Federico Peña, and of HUD Henry Cisneros. To his credit, though he is nominally a Republican, Riordan didn't mention that nasty partisan mistress tion that nasty partisan mistress scandal Cisneros weathered a little

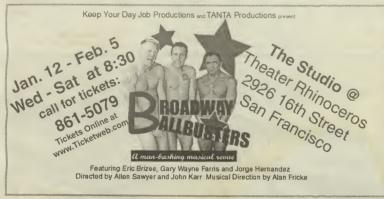
sandal Cisneros weathered a little while ago.

Then it was on to a deeper chamber of the hanger for dinner prepared by Spago restaurateur and frozen pizza king Wolfgang Puck, who appeared during dessert to declare Puckishly that he was in the market for a new van. He was immediately handed a card by a quick-thinking exec.

At first we wondered why a Big Three automobile company wanted to invite queer little us to their party, and moreover, be a real sport and pick up the tab for our flight, hotel and restaurant bills to boot. Then our savvy friend Johnny C. spelled it out for us:

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page 48 ▶





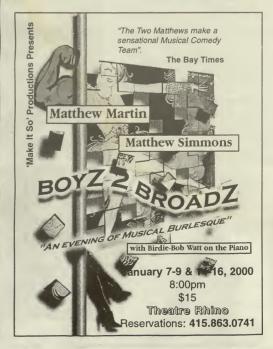
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Show tunes with balls

Songs about men in 'Broadway Ballbusters' at Studio Rhino

by Richard Dodds

t's probably the only musical revue in history with two — count 'em — two songs from Nick & Nora, one of the most notorious Broadway flops of recent decades. Throw in a song from Dance a Little Closer (notorious flop) and one from Steel Pier (notorious flop), and you begin to re-alize that *Broadway Ballbusters* isn't taking the greatest-hits ap

former in *Civil Sex*, but he's no longer a character in it. "I cut myself," the writer-performer said. "I thought it needed to be more of a play and less of a performance

That's one of several major changes Freeman's script has un-dergone since its premiere at the Marsh in 1997. Freeman incorporated those changes during a workshop production at the New York Public Theatre, and the new version is having its official un-veiling this week at Berkeley Rep.

way into a very familiar subject. No one plays King, but he's circled around in such a way that you re-ally feel his presence."

For ticket information, call (510) 845-4700

From Genesis to Mother Goose

Both were hailed as new voices for the musical theater, and both stumbled in their recent forays at Broadway. But Henry Krieger, who wrote the music

who wrote the music for *Dreamgirls*, and Stephen Schwartz, who gave music and lyrics to *Godspell* and *Pippin*, are back with new musicals having Bay Area pre-mieres in the coming

For Schwartz, the new musical is Children of Eden at the American Mu-

sical Theatre of San Jose. In this case, however, new is a relative term. This fanciful, heavy-with-literary-license approach to the Old Testament may be Schwartz's most recent attempt at writing songs for a stage musical, but it actually had its premiere in London back in 1991.

The mega-production didn't last long, and popped up here and there after that, but finally got a new lease on life after the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey staged a revised version in 1998.

After the long-running God-

Backstage

spell, Pippin and The Magic Show, Schwartz hit a rough patch with the short-lived Working and The Baker's Wife, which closed before reaching Broadway. But Schwartz hasn't been idle, writing songs for the animated musicals Pocahontas, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and The Prince of Egypt.

Ticket info for Children of Eden is available at (888) 455-SHOW.

Krieger's show. Everything's

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Krieger's show, Everything's

Ducky at TheatreWorks

in Mountain View, is

not only a Bay Area prenot only a Bay Area premiere but also a world premiere. The composer of *Dreamgirls* offered TheatreWorks his latest project after he saw its production last year of his *Side Show*, a 1998 Broadway flop with a cult following, and liked saw.

what he saw.

His new musical is a musical satire updating the tale of *The Ugly Duckling*. In this whimsical version, a funny-looking duck heads to the big city, gets cast in a bump-and-grind show called *Poultry in Motion*, and eventually becomes a supermodel. Bill Russell, Krieger's collaborator on *Side Show*, has provided the lyrics and the libretto. His credits also include the drag beauty-contest

clude the drag beauty-contest musical Pageant. Angela Robinson, who played the Diana Ross-based character in

Dreamgirls at the Paper Mill Play-house, stars as the duckling-turned-swan. Her charming Prince Drake is being played by Michael McEachran, seen recent-ly on Broadway in *Little Me* with Martin Short. For more info on *Everything's Ducky*, call (650) 903-6000.

'Love! Valour!' at NCTC

One of Broadway's gayest hits, and a Tony Award winner to boot, is only just now making its way to San Francisco. True, Love! Valour! Compassion! did have a run at Berkeley Rep in 1996, but its real San Francisco debut happens next week at the New Conservatory

Theatre Center.
Terrence McNally's comedy focuses on eight friends who head away from New York for a shared country vacation during which passions, resentments, fears, reve

passions, resentments, fears, revelations, and bonds are shared. It opened on Broadway in 1995.
"I think," McNally said in his introduction to the published text, "I wanted to write about what it's like to be a gay man at this particular moment in our history. I think I wanted to tell my friends how much they've meant. friends how much they've meant to me. I think I wanted to tell everyone else who we are when they aren't around."

Call 861-8972 for ticket info.

Richard Dodds can be reached at BARstage@aol.com.



Gary Wayne Farris, Jorge Hernandez, and Eric Brizee in *Broadway Ballbusters*, "a man-bashing musical revue" at Studio Rhino.

That's the point, says Eric Brizee, who appears in the show in the Studio at Theatre Rhino and helped create it with musical director Alan Fricke.

"We wanted to put together a show of high-energy Broadway show tunes that weren't the hack-neyed songs that everybody knows," he said. And they wanted them to all be about men. And be

"My first thought was that we all know many of the Broadway diva songs, but there are also great ones for the male leads in those show," Brizee said. "That evolved into a mix of songs about men coming from the male perspec-tive, whether or not they were first sung by men. We've changed pro-nouns here and there, but you

know how gay guys refer to each other as 'her' and 'she,' so a little bit of that sticks."

Brizee, Gary Wayne Farris, and Jorge Hernandez play three entertainers who spend the first act in their descriptions. tainers who spend the first act in their dressing room "complaining about what assholes men can be," Brizee said. "We make fun of the insipid dialogue that takes you from song to song in most musicals, and that really gets played up in the second act, when they actually do their show."

Brizee was a member of the original cast of Dirty Little Show Tunes, and the directors of the new revue, F. Allen Sawyer and John F. Karr, also staged the previous production. But while occasional lyrics are tampered with,

sional lyrics are tampered with, this is not a parody revue, as Dirty Little Show Tunes was.

Little Show Tunes was.

But don't take it seriously. "I don't think it's serious at all," Frizee said. "We put it together with the idea of having a lot of fun. After all, we're starting off with a song called, 'Three Queens in a Room Bitching,'"

For prore info on Broadway.

For more info on Broadway Ballbusters, call 861-5079.

New look at 'Civil Sex'

Brian Freeman is still a per-

In Civil Sex, a cast of five explores the life and career of Bayard Rustin, a pivotal player in the Civil Rights movement who was-n't shy about being gay in the '40s and '50s. That brought criticism from conservatives and caused consternation from movement leaders all the way up to Martin Luther King Jr. Rustin was forced to become the loyal, invisible lieu-

In the original version at the Marsh, we saw Freeman playing himself as he conducted his research into Rustin. Though that aspect of the play is gone, Freeman actually conducted more research that he feels adds new dimensions to the piece.
That includes highlighting the relationship between James Baldwin and Rustin, and shining more of a spotlight on Martin Luther King. In the original version at the

King.

"Since King is such an enormous figure, I really tried to embrace that," Freeman said. "I wanted to come at King from an



Civil Sex's Brian Freeman



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Dyke drama

Festival of Lesbian Playwrights debuts at Magic Theatre in Fort Mason Center

by Deborah Peifer

espite the fact of our having been chic for ten or fifteen minutes a few years back, lesbians continue to be invisible and lesbian plays largely unpro-duced in most mainstream theatres. The Magic Theatre's decision to hold a Festival of Lesbian

sion to hold a Festival of Lesbian Playwrights struck me as a wonderful choice.

Festival coordinator Laura Owen explained that "the festival came out of a number of discussions with people like lesbian playwright Claire Chafee, whose play Why We Have a Body was a huge hit at the Magic in 1993. Gay playwrights seemed to have made it into the mainstream, but lesbian playwrights still couldn't get bian playwrights still couldn't get their plays produced, except at les-bian venues. We knew there was lots of good work out there, and we saw the festival as a means to focus attention on the work and focus attention on the work and on the issues. These plays feed people emotionally and intellectually." The Magic Theatre is devoted to producing new work, "and festivals are a great way for us to process new plays."

Choosing the plays meant grappling with the age-old question of what makes a play a lesbian play, and the Magic decided to focus on playwrights who identified themselves as lesbian. Identified themselves as lesbian. Identified themselves as lesbian. Identified

tified themselves as lesbian. Iden-tity rather than content deter-mined eligibility.

"We wanted to give opportuni-ty to local writers, but also to ap-

ty to local writers, but also to appeal to a wider range of playwrights," said Owen. "Of course, choosing [local playwrights] Cherrie Moraga and Claire Chafee was a no-brainer. I mean, what can you say about them except brilliant, brilliant, brilliant, "The other plays were selected by the literary committee and the artistic staff. When I read Emma Donoghue's book, Kissing the Witch, I couldn't put it down. Emma is a playwright as well as a novelist, so she is adapting the book for the stage. Kate Moira Ryan's play Damage and Desire embodied every political issue we had to face in putting on the festival. Her play is witty, compassionate and full of heart. Bernadette Flagler is an emerging playwright. Flagler is an emerging playwright. I found myself laughing out loud while reading Catastrophe of Peace, a play about a young woman who just may be the Section of the property ond Coming, and whose girl-friend may be Judas."

Away in Spain

Claire Chafee is a writer of sur-passing wit and powerful political acumen. I was curious to know about her new play, Five Women on a Hill in Spain, so my first question when I spoke with her was, Where did this play come from? "I was trying to get into a writers' colony, but I had to have writers' colony, but I had to have something I was working on to include in my application. I said I was writing a play about five women on a hill in Spain that was called Five Women on a Hill in Spain. I didn't get into the colony," Chafee said.

"I knew I wanted to write about an era [the early '60s] when people spoke in complete sentences, and about characters who had fully functioning minds and

had fully functioning minds and hearts. The play is about an ongo-



Claire Chafee

ing interrupted conversation. Writing it was both a new great adventure and a migraine. I discovered that writer's block is not covered that writer's block is not the absence of material, but an overwhelming number of voices all clamoring to be heard. There are so many women who have been overlooked, who never got around to their own lives. The play is fragmented because I want it to reflect women's lives." it to reflect women's lives."

I wondered whether we even needed a lesbian festival. Chafee responded, "I think it's odd that we still have lesbian playwright festivals. It's good to gather and speak with other lesbians, but I can't believe we still have to do it. The attitude seems to be, 'It's all fine now,' but it's not really not in fine now,' but it's not really, not in the Legislature, not on the streets. We're still being killed.

First crushes

"It ried to write in this play about what it's like to be in a room with women who might be gay," said Chafee. "It was painful to go back to that place, when I was just out and thought I might be the only one in the world. The be the only one in the world. The women in the play are elusive be-cause women didn't speak out in 1963, they didn't know if it was safe. People ask me why the play is so complicated, and my answer is that's what my life has been. I had no clue how to kiss a girl, or even how to be a lesbian. I thought ravel alot bethought I would travel a lot be-cause I had no home, and I would have a series of brief, painful af-fairs that ended in betrayal. In fact, my first feelings toward women were deep crushes. I wanted to know them, to read their journals, to hold hands. This play is set 'elsewhere' because I thought maybe somewhere else, in Spain, say, I could be gay." Chafee writes lesbian plays be-cause, she explained, "I want to

hear lesbian stories and see les-bian images. I don't think in straight (pun intended) lines. What I have been made to feel can't always be spoken in words. I can't always be spoken in words. I am writing for myself and for people who understand women loving women. Things do happen in my play, but not what people expect. The problem with plot is that it assumes that events create character, but I believe in ideas, even though it's very hard to have a new idea on purpose."

a new idea on purpose."

People are always saying that recipie are always saying, which the theatre is dead or dying, which makes me wonder why anyone still writes plays. Chafee agrees that "being a playwright is a little like being in harpsichord repair. our need to communicate in the moment. The blanks are filled in, she continues, "in the very air around you. The audience reacts, and the actors can react to the reaction. The play can grow and change in response to the live audience. There are two forces at work, the play and the response to the play. People have a terrible, terrible need to see a play, even if they don't know it. People are passionate about theatre because it our need to communicate in the sionate about theatre because it matters so much to them."



Cherrie Moraga

Two murders

Cherrie Moraga is also pas Cherrie Moraga is also pas-sionate about theatre and what it can do. Who Killed Yolanda Sal-divar takes as its starting point two murders, the killing of Tejana music star Selena by the president of her fan club, and the murder of friend where owns on "Both of her fan club, and the murder of a friend by her own son. "Both victims were Chicanas, and al-though the women were a gener-ation apart, they were both artists in their prime," Moraga ex-plained. "As a feminist, I'm inter-ested in violence against women. As a Chicana, I'm looking at my own nation, and the incidence of own nation, and the incidence of Chicana-on-Chicana crime. As a lesbian, I'm interested in internalized homophobia. As a lesbian and a Chicana, I have to negotiate

and a Chicana, I have to negotiate many identities."

Moraga wants her audience to be clear on the fact that she is writing fiction. "Even though my play is based on two things that took place, the play is complete fiction. Yolanda Saldivar was not a lesbian, but my play explores questions of internalized homophobia. It's my mediation on phobia. It's my mediation on these characters in my role as a these characters in my rote as a cultural critic. There is so much to see, so much more story than we ever read. I write fiction to fill in the blanks. As I teach writing, I encourage my students to look at autoloigraphy as fiction. It's all interpretie."

interpretive."

On the question of the need for a lesbian festival, Moraga is "glad to see it. I don't feel that les-bian subject matter or lesbian subjectivity are commonplace. It's important to frame a festival around lesbian subject matter. It around less an subject matter. It gives us a chance to meditate on lesbian culture." Moraga is especially pleased at the Magic's willingness to do new work "both by emerging writers and more estab-lished writers who have new plays. There is a huge financial risk involved in producing new work. The Magic has a good track record for producing lesbian

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Every picture tells a story

'New Work: Painting Today, Recent Acquisitions' at SFMOMA

by Michael McDonagh

he millennia-old art of painting has been under at-tack for years. Photography, after all, has pretty much replaced the formal painted portrait, e-mail has done the same with the letter, and film and video have outmaneuvered the novel. So how can the slower art of painting communicate, and can it tell new stories in our jaded age? These and other questions were provoked by two visits I made to SF-MOMA's show New Work: Painting Today, Recent Acquisitions. On view till March 28, it includes 15 paintings by 11 youngish artists
— six Americans, one Scot, one
German, one Belgian, one Japanese and one Thai, several women and (as far as we know) one gay man, Brett Reichman, who was born in 1959.

His 1997 oil "A Painting That Tells A Story" is certainly one of the most problematic, and this despite an impressive technique. His symbolic arrangement of forms — fragments of frames circling and ensnaring toys — and use of color (there's a lot of bilious green) does-n't make him look like a happy camper. The whole picture in fact seems designed as a negative vanitas — objects which function as a moral lesson for the viewer. Even innocent faces look somehow demonic. The gayest part of the painting may be the artist's seeming obsession with a bad child-hood and the culture that allowed it to happen, as well as an obvious

The "gayest" paintings here are the 1998 series Bergsteiger by Antje Majewski (born 1968), which manage to be contemplative, art-referential and sensual.

Brett Reichman, A painting that tells a story, 1997

too. At first glance, these group portraits of mountain climbers look like the sharp-focus work of the American Photorealists or the blurrier ones that the German artist Gerhard Richter has sometimes done. But Majewski seems to have other aims. "II" is a widescreap for mother than the state of the same of widescreen-format view of three self-absorbed male figures fronting four resting ones, and, whether consciously or not, the artist seems to be commenting on the emotional distance between

men, which is something gays know very well. The square "III" presents three males who appear to be relating to each other in the way that minor figures do in Renaissance works by masters like Masaccio and Piero — they may even be checking each other out. And, like other modernist artists, Majewski hints at stories she never fully reveals.

Though one would he hard put to find any story in the 1998 "Couple" by Luc Tuymans (b.

1958), the museum's wall card says that the painter got his image from a graphic (or story with pic-tures) novel. Hiroshi Sugito (b. tures) novel. Hiroshi Sugito (b. 1948) and several others set strong moods which suggest narratives. Those by Deborah Oropallo (b. 1954), "Railroad Crossing" (1997), and William Wood (b. 1960), "Untitled" (1998), are concerned with repeated patterns, repetition being in and of itself a kind of story. Laura Owens (b. 1970) tells hers by erasing it; her painting of trees is intentionally unfinished. Callum Innes (b. 1962) and Nicola

Tyson (b. 1960) have contributed mysterious works with apparently self-referential stories.

New Work also seems to be about privacy, which is pretty odd given the fact that we live in such a relentlessly public age. Producing works which are private in nature is one way of dealing with this, and a perfectly valid one. You can tell stories that way, too.

New Work: Painting Today, Recent Acquisitions, through March 28 at SFMOMA, 151 3rd



Dyke drama

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plays, and my experience with the theatre has been very positive." Moraga writes for the theatre despite "the diminishing econom-ic support. If the theatre is dying, that's due to economics, not a lack of material. It's very hard to sur-vive as a playwright. It's almost as

hard as making a living as a poet. But when live bodies happen now, in front of us, the art form is in-comparable. I realize I could reach comparable. I realize I could reach a larger audience writing films, but the director of a film is the final authority. The writer has no control over her work. Theatre is a communal event, a transformative event, a mutual witnessing. Every performance is a new Gestalt. If you are sitting in the theatre, you have a choice whether to stay or go, and your decision affects the play itself. I remain frustratedly committed to the theatre." ▼

The Festival of Lesbian Playwrights is Jan. 13-23 at the Magic Theatre, Bldg. F, Ft. Mason. For tickets (\$10-15), call 441-8822.

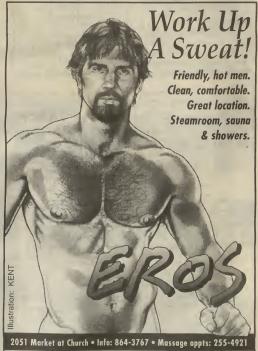
THEATRE



Goilz like us

erry Baum (left) and Margery Kreitman wrote and perform Nice Joosh Goilz, a kaleidoscope of scenes of Jewish women through history. The cast of characters th portray includes a gangster grand-ma, a radical dyke, a disembodied nose, and the original Eve. Baum'is the founder of Lilith Theater, one of the first feminist theater companies in the US. Kreitman is a playwright and performer who has appeared at Theatre Rhinoceros, Josie's and the Plush Room, among other venues. She created and directed Visible Proof and Positive Spirit, two theater groups run by HIV+ men and

Nice Josh Goilz is part of the Women's Work Jubilee presented by Footloose at Venue 9, 252 9th St. It will be performed as part of the programs on Sunday, Jan. 16 and Sat-urday, Jan. 22 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10-15. Call 289-2000. ▼



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The Mikado Leigh

Filmmaker Mike Leigh stumbles on Gilbert and Sullivan

by Robert Julian

opsy-Turvy, the title of British filmmaker Mike Leigh's latest release, is intended to reflect the goofy, discombobulated world of Gilbert and Sullivan's light operas. And with these two gentlemen as its central characters, and many excerpts from their operas included, one might expect a film with a similarly light-hearted tone. That film does not materialize. Instead, Mike Leigh subjects the viewer to two hours and 40 minutes of tedious Sturm und Drang.

dious Sturm und Drang.

Most Americans know Leigh
for his breakthrough film, Naked,
or the more recent Secrets and Lies.
Until Topsy-Turvy, Leigh focused
on contemporary working-class
England, which he explored and
exposed with a keen eye for detail
and a sharp wit. But here, Leigh
takes us back to London in 1884,
when Gilbert and Sullivan's
Princess Ida opens to mixed reviews. Stodgy William Gilbert (Jim
Broadbent) is ready to embark on
the libretto for their next commercial smash, despite the critical
bashing they've just received. But
composer Arthur Sullivan (Allen
Corduner) rejects Gilbert's proposal and holds out for High Art,
instead of the lowbrow comic operas that have brought the duo
fame and fortune.

eras that have brought the duo fame and fortune.

Unfortunately for the audience, it takes writer/director Mike Leigh over an hour to set up this artistic impasse. In the meantime, his film just lies there, gasping for dramatic tension and spitting up meaningless vignettes from Princess Ida and The Sorcerer. Then, with no resolution of the conflict Leigh has taken so long to introduce, Gilbert is inspired by an idea for The Mikado and, quicker than you can say "HMS Pinafore," the first production number from The Mikado appears on screen. Leigh abandons the artistic dilemma of the duo, and the film shifts gears into a backstage comedy/drama.

Thin veils

The second half of the film is slightly more engaging than the first. It consists primarily of truncated arias and rehearsal scenes which, although genuine and be-

lievable, are essentially pointless. On this note, the film flounces along to its conclusion. The somewhat dissolute Sullivan learns his American mistress (Eleanor David) is headed for yet another abortion, and Gilbert's wife Lucy (Leslie Manville) presents her husband with a proposal for a new production which is a thinly wiled metaphor for her own need for affection and validation. This latter scene, beautifully executed by the actors and nicely written by Leigh, comes as a dramatic non sequitur — as if Henrik Ibsen had tinkered with one of Gilbert's librettos.

Costume designer Lindy Hemming and Art Director Helen Scott deliver a production that is visually beautiful. Cinematographer Dick Pope serves equally well in his presentation of the brilliantly colorful stage numbers and the darker Victorian interiors. The cast turns in a nice ensemble performance, with Kevin McKidd making a strong impression as the temperamental tenor Durward

Lely. But the film feels out of control from the very start, and Leigh must shoulder all the blame. The pacing is leaden; the musical excepts do not further the development of plot or character; and Leigh seems uncertain as to whether he is directing a comedy or a soap opera.

The good news about Topsy-Turvy is that it is probably the first Mike Leigh film in which an American audience will be able to understand every word of dialogue. The bad news is that no one will care. Even the most die-hard Gilbert and Sullivan fans will come away disappointed. In this case, the best bet would be to buy a ticket to the next Lamplighter's production in order to experience the work of the composers, and rent Naked to appreciate the brilliance of Mike Leigh. As for Topsy-Turvy — well, every career must have its footnote. ▼

Topsy-Turvy opens Friday, January 14 in the Bay Area.



Jim Broadbent as W.S. Gilbert in Mike Leigh's Topsy-Turvy

George Kuchar

■ Arts cover

going for more painterly effects and George ever enamored of the steamy camp melodrama. George's latest work, funded during a fit of good sense by the Rockefeller Foundation, carries his obsession with earthly, fleshly things into the literal stratosphere. Secrets of the Shadow World is a digital video epic ostensibly tracking George's attempts to make a "big UFO movie," but it's really an excuse to display the filmmaker's scintillating sensibility and zany gallery of friends.

Charming deviates

This is a long work by Kuchar standards, clocking in at 140 minutes, and George utilizes every inch of this broad canvas. The film, divided into three parts, opens with familiar cheesy string music from the '50s, backgrounded to moody shots of New York City. There George, who appears throughout as himself, interviews a series of crackpots and misfits. These include filmmaker Larry Leibowitz, whom George implies is a canni-



Eric Nordhauser and Jaymie DeVan in Secrets of the Shadow World

bal. Larry denies this strenuously, but his protests are comically undercut by drops of blood that appear (unseen by Larry) on the camera lens. George is obviously a simpatico friend, but can't resist subtly skewering his friends. When Linda Martinez bends over her oven to check on a cake she's baking, her ample ass is exposed. When Florine Conners, an alumna of several of the Kuchars' earlier

films, vividly describes an operation she had, George offers irrefutable advice: "You need a hot lobster!" He's as charmingly "deviate" here as any of the people he talks to. In one scene, he appears as a quasi-drag queen alien prancing across the beach in striped stockings and an ill-fitting frock. This scene, like much of the film, is shot in San Francisco.

ings and an in-intting frock. This scene, like much of the film, is shot in San Francisco.

This "big UFO movie" about the making of a "big UFO movie" is full of diversions, because the filmmaker obviously can't resist spontaneity and play. Still, he does go back often enough to the UFO theme, talking to "UFOlogists" like John A. Keel, author of the first book on the subject. Keel's manner, like George's, is playful and elusive — does he truly believe, as he says, that "we have an airplane that's completely invisi-

ble?" Another leitmotif throughout the film is the Sasquatch's bathroom habits. George recalls one of his students going to the frozen North to find one of these creatures, and stumbling in horror on one of the creature's droppings. "He believed it was a Sasquatch turd and was very much afraid," George says, adding informatively that it was "fresh."

pings. "He believed it was a Sasquatch turd and was very much afraid," George says, adding informatively that it was "fresh."
Besides the endless camp drollery, Secrets is loaded with visual trickery made possible by the digital video. He fleshes out the imaginative lives of his cast, inserting a cutout of nearly naked musclemen in Linda Martinez's doorway. When one of his subjects describes an alien encounter, he can show it on an overlay of a cheesy monster claw from some 1950s horror movie crawling across the screen. Even the Rockefeller Foundation isn't safe from the Kuchar sleight-of-hand; the patron's credit is twisted and twirled and drenched in a rainbow of colors.
Best of all is a look at the ultimate shadow-world secret: the sex

Best of all is a look at the ultimate shadow-world secret: the sex life of the Roswell alien. In a bizarre tableau that surely reaches the giddy heights of camp, he shows the alien as a player, stretched out on top of Linda Martinez, who thrills to the touch of its plastic paw and moody, ovoid bedroom eyes.

The world premiere of Secrets of the Shadow World by George Kuchar is Sat., Jan. 15 in the Screening Room at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Information/tickets, 978-ARTS.

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John A. Keel in George Kuchar's Secrets of the Shadow World

I am a film festival

German films at the Castro Theatre

by Erin Blackwell

he good thing about the Goethe-Institut's fifth annual Berlin & Beyond Film Festival, which plays the Castro January 14-20, is its manageability. A mere 21 features and 15 shorts play one venue (and what a venue!) in the space of one week. The bad thing is, each film plays only once, so you've got to study the catalogue closely and take some leaps of faith.

venuel) in the space of one week. The bad thing is, each film plays only once, so you've got to study the catalogue closely and take some leaps of faith.

Worse, these films are so smart, so dense, and so damn meaningful that the average US filmgoer rapidly risks content overload. Such angst can only be countered with calories. Why doesn't concessions get some bratwurst and sauerkraut on the menu, heavy on the mustard, with a little weissbier and dunkel to wash it down? Better yet, let Beck's sponsor a biergarten tent in the parking lot next door. Or if the Federal Republic of Germany prefers, make that a konditerai serving a fine assortment of pastries mit schlag to the tune of a baby grand.

baby grand.

But I'm dreaming. With or without food, the festival provides a mix of entertainment and experiment, monochrome and color, Nazis and Jews, East and West, tragedy and comedy, biopic and fantasy, that will refresh any palette satiated with stateside cinema-as-usual. There's no break-away auteur at work, but a consistently high level of filmmaking and storytelling.

Queers are well-served by the

Queers are well-served by the opening night opus Aimée & Jaguar, an overwrought tale of Aryan-Jewish lesbian passion played out during the Allied bombing of Berlin; and Rosa von Praunheim's low-budget homage to The Einstein of Sex, aka Magnus Hirschfeld, the world's first sexologist and gay rights activist. A whiff of queer serves to jazz up the latent heterosexual tendencies of Regular Guys, a light romantic urban comedy that manages to be normal without giving offense.

or negatar Guys, a fight formantic urban comedy that manages to be normal without giving offense. Equally cheering is the festival's ratio of female/male directors, which puts the SF Film Society's International Festival to shame: five features and five shorts, or 25 and 50 percent, directed by women. The onscreen benefits for viewers are arguably more aesthetic than political, translating as a wider palette of visual and visceral textures.

Mix 'n' match

Nazis, Jews, matrons, and lesbians mix it up in Aimée & Jaguar (1/14), directed by Max Fäberböck from his screenplay with Rona Munro, based on the best-selling 1994 nonfiction book by Erica Fischer. The subject of this film is so heart-rending and gutwrenching it's a wonder they managed to hold the camera still

while tarting up all the spot-on political analysis with high-end production values. Here's a blockbuster that raises your consciousness as it keeps you on the edge of your seat.

Blonde, blue-eyed Lilly, Aryan wife and mother of four, is married to a Nazi officer at the front, but carrying on with another who's stationed in Berlin. Surprising herself, she falls for the dark and mysterious Felice, personal assistant to the editor of a Nazi newspaper by day, and chutzpahfilled Jewish lesbian survival artist 24/7. Both actresses emote with gusto, although their sex scene plays like a torture session. Where's sex consultant Susie Bright when we need her?

gusto, although their sex scene plays like a torture session. Where's sex consultant Susie Bright when we need her? As if their doomed love affair weren't hair-raisingly tragic enough, the fall of Berlin is portrayed with Götterdämmerung pyrotechnicity and pathos. A toxic ambiance of denial and suspicion, leavened by lighthearted lesbian lolling and punctuated by air raids and deportations, is made convincing through an attention to period detail that extends to the anecdotal authenticity of the narrative. The real Lilly Wust, now 85, still lives in Berlin, her Jaguar went to an unmarked grave.



A scene from The Einstein of Sex

The Einstein of Sex (1/19) is a sober, underdramatized account of the life of Magnus Hirschfeld, thoroughly in keeping with the style of the man. Underrecognized for his achievements, Hirschfeld fought the legalization of sexual repression with an openminded scientific approach. Although his model is creepily medicalized, his conclusions are thoroughly liberating. He recognized a continuum of gender characteristics and the absence of any pure male or female type.

The closeted homosexual was

an out sexologist whose Institute for Sexual Science was an international meeting place during the Weimar Republic. As the ultimate in backhanded compliments, its files were among the first books burned by the Nazis in 1933. Fortunately, Hirschfeld was safe in

Paris, although he only outlived the disaster by two years. Von Praunheim slights the world-famousness of Hirschfeld's venture (presumably for budgetary reasons), but injects the simple chronology with doses of eroticism and wit. A must-see educational film for the whole family.

German 'Friends'

On a more strictly entertaining note, Regular Guys (1/16) could be considered the German version of all those Friends-style comedies that hit the screens over the last few years, in which everybody's sexual persuasion is up for grabs. Unlike his Anglo-American counterparts, director Rolf Silber, who shares screenplay credit with Rudi Bergmann, never lets his romantic-comic characters go maudlin.

Bergmann, never lets his romantic-comic characters go maudlin.
Christoph, a cop who sports a macho discourse, gets kicked out of his girlfriend's, has his car stolen, and wakes up in bed with a cute gay guy. While Christoph eventually goes straight again, the film leads him gently through some uncertain socio-sexual terrain. His vibrant anti-homophobic tirade in the cops' locker room is an eloquent rite of passage, after which he gets to get the girl.

Requiem for a Romantic Woman (1/15), directed by Dag-

Requiem for a Romantic Woman (1/15), directed by Dagmar Knöpfel, is an exquisitely filmed bit of poetic history that fulfills the promise of its title, laying to rest a tormented soul. In 1807, 17-year-old Auguste married poet Clemens Bernano. Although they started out as equals in love and passion, as is so often the case, the guy got the career and the woman went nuts. Think Zelda Fitzgerald.

The lighting is gorgeous, the acting is great costumes and sets.

The lighting is gorgeous, the acting is great, costumes and sets feel authentic down to the last feather on the quill pens. All this period set-dressing keeps the convincing treatment of a relationship on the skids from getting merely gruesome. This cautionary tale about the downside of German Romanticism remains relevant to our lives today, as we try to form lasting couples on the basis of that volatile substance, love. The film also reminds anyone so inclined not to fall in love with a writer.

For sheer melodramatic movie

For sheer melodramatic movie entertainment, you can't do better



Juliane Köhler and Maria Schrader in Aimée and Jaguar

than closing night's Gloomy Sunday (1/20), directed by Rolf Schubel, who wrote the screenplay with Ruth Toma, after the novel by Nick Barkow. Billie Holliday connoisseurs will recognize in the film's title the name of one of her trademark songs. The song really exists, really was written in Budapest in 1935, and really inspired (or accompanied) a number of suicides. Everything else about the film is the novelist's invention.

In Szabo's Restaurant, a hollow-cheeked young pianist named Andras writes a dirge as a birthday present for the owner's lovely lover Ilona. Shortly thereafter, the three agree to be a love triangle, which later becomes a quadrangle with the addition of Hans, the German entrepreneur with a fondness for beef roulade who becomes a Nazi trafficker in passports for Jews. By film's end, only Ilona's left standing, but the melody lingers on.

For sheer filmmaking, *The*

For sheer filmmaking, The Shoe, by Latvian director Laila Pakalnina, is the high point of the festival. This timeless fable about the wrongheadedness of the military bureaucratic mind is shot in luxuriously long takes and velvety black-and-white. Impossible to say what's planned and what's accidental in the filming, as the simple storyline becomes a pretext for documenting the time and space in a small Latvian town, circa 1950.

After a woman's shoe is found in the sand on the Baltic coast during the Cold War, a small Soviet border unit is sent out to discover the presumed spy, à la Cinderella, by having every woman in town try on the shoe. The soldiers

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are as comically inept as their protocol is ludicrously unsuited to the delicacy, not to say eroticism, of the offense. This film is for meditative voyeurs with long attention spans

meditative voyeurs with long attention spans.
Also in the experimental narrative category, Oskar and Leni by Petra Katharina Wagner is an innovative mix of rhythmic repeats and a linear storyline. Shot in black-and-white and featuring some really good German faces, this story of true love between a Marilyn Monroe-lipsynching whore who works in a bakery and an Olympic swimmer-turned-jewel thief just out of prison samples Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet as a postmodern play-within-a-film. The plot threads are neatly tied up in the end, if your patience holds out for 90 minutes.

Less successful at holding an audience rapt is the equally experimental *Tuvalu* by Veit Helmer. He's got a great cast, including Denis Lavant (*Les Amants de Pont Neuf*), but is a tad too self-conscious about inventing things for them to do in a run-down swimming pool-cum-civic palace that could be a metaphor for the dying Soviet system or some more generalized patriarchal order. Then again, it may just be a metaphor for pretentious play-acting in front of a camera. Anyone with a taste for Eastern European absurdist circus/theater will enjoy this; and for you disaster fans, there's a nice *Titanic* moment at the end when the whole building explodes.

Total transfer or the suppose the succession of the s

Berlin & Beyond plays the Castro January 14-20.





A scene from Rolf Silber's Regular Guys

Haunted by choices

Jason Butler Harner in 'Invention of Love'

by Richard Dodds

feel I have much to offer in this role," said Jason Butler Harner, who is playing the young A.E. Housman in *The Invention of Love*, Tom Stoppard's play about repressed love and unfulfilled lives set against the scholarly backdron. set against the scholarly backdrop of Oxford University. "I do weep that he could never acknowledge who he is."

In Stoppard's accounting, the In Stoppard's accounting, the elderly Housman (played by James Cromwell), recently departed from the mortal coil, is looking back on his Oxford days, when he was confronting his enormous affection for another man, classmate and track star Moses Jackson. The play posits that Jackson's painful rejection of this attraction led ejection of this attraction led

rejection of this attraction led Housman to pinch his emotional life in the bud, instead finding a dry professional success as a poet and scholar.

Harner, 29, suspects many in the ACT audience will have trouble getting the arcane scholarly references and Latin and Greek passages in Stoppard's script, but that will hardly make them unique. Harner himself has struggled with the myriad of informa-tion the playwright provides.

"I've read a lot of books, I've

worried a lot, and I've yielded the floor a lot" to director Carey Perloff, he said a few hours before the play's first preview at the Geary Theater. "I've come to em-



Jason Butler Harner as the young

brace the notion that useless

brace the notion that useless knowledge is valuable."
This is Harner's second encounter with Stoppard, having played a role in the intellectually high-flying Arcadia. "What I enjoy about his plays is the Rubik's Cube quality," he said. "You keep unraveling things as you go on. I think some people fall too much into the mental machinations with his plays, so my chief concern was to communicate the cern was to communicate the heart and the struggle of this man. He is a man definitely haunted by the choices he made."

Harner grew up in Virginia, headed to Virginia Common-

wealth University thinking he'd wind up teaching the mentally handicapped, and left with a de-gree in theater. The graduate the-ater program at New York Univer-sity was his next step, and he's found steady work in the theater

since finishing up at NYU. He made his ACT debut last year, earning glowing reviews for his performance of the younger brother in Long Day's Journey into Night. He tries not to read re-views, though he admits it's hard at this stage of his career, and he can still quote the withering pan he received in his first profession-al appearance in a trifle called *The* Reluctant Debutante.

al appearance in a tritic cailed *The* Reluctant Debutante.
Harner, currently unattached, is looking forward to his 30th birthday for the step toward maturity its implies. He's grown a litter of the beautiful to the beautiful to the step the beautiful to the beautiful the weary of always being the boy in the cast, and he's ready to put the insecurities of youth behind him. It's only recently that he's put the partying of youth behind him. "I tried so hard to do what I

was supposed to do in my 20s, this voraciousness in living my life," he said, "but I still felt I wasn't living up to what I was supposed to be doing. But like the play asks, is it possible to live your life without saying, 'I wish I had ...'?"

The Invention of Love will run at the Geary Theater through Feb. 13. Tickets are \$14-55.

FILM

Seven-year itch



t's probably the longest-running franchise in documentary history. 42 Up is the latest installment in a British series produced by Granada Tv which has traced the lives of fourteen British men and women in 7-year increments, beginning with the film 7 Up in 1964. Director Michael Apted was a researcher on 7 Up, and subsequently helmed the ensuing chapters of individual history. Though he has gone on to direct big-budget Hollywood films like Gorillas in the Mist and the latest James Bond installment, The World is Not Enough, Apted remains committed to the documentary series. 'It's the most important thing I've ever done or will do," he says. 42 Up opens Friday, February 14 at the Lumiere in SF, the Rafael Film Center in San Rafael, and the UC Theatre in Berkeley. ▼

Corporeal punishment

'Spank' in Berkeley

by Richard Dodds

e learn a lot about Nancy e learn a lot about Nancy Wright Cooper in the course of her new one-woman show. We find out that she doesn't like to eat food cooked by strangers, that she does like to bake chewy oatmeal-raisin cookies, and that she likes to have a man beat

her behind till it glows red.
In Spank, Cooper provides a sometimes bracing, sometimes uneasy blend of personal minuti-ae and personal intimacies. At its best, the 90-minute show offers a first-hand look into the worlds of S&M, B&D, and D&S, with a tourguide who is learning her way

as she proceeds.

In this straightforward persona, Cooper explains how a chance encounter with an old boyfriend led to an exploration of these new sexual worlds, which, she discovers, may not have been all that new after all. But this is only one of Cooper's personas that make alternating appear-ances, and these other guises are

not always so intriguing.

Cooper arrives on stage as the leather-clad dominatrix Mistress Nancy, who barks various orders at members of the audience. It's an unconvincing comic-edged performance that can cause a spasm of disappointment when-ever it reappears.

And there's the Cooper who

hand there's the Cooper who insists on providing the details of her family life, including an alcoholic father who set no boundaries for her, and whose lingering illness we share right down to what snack foods he was allowed to eat. Important as these encounters obviously are to Cooper, they aren't particularly fascinating in their details — at least not in Cooper's fairly pedestrian ac-



Nancy Wright Cooper in Spank

countings in both script and its

delivery.

In the end, not surprisingly, she brings her missing-in-action father and her cravings for men to dominate her together. It is all, she assures us, "very healthy." There are tears and self-abuse before it's

all over and a cheery Mistress
Nancy sends up on our way.
Cooper is a brave performer,
acknowledging and attempting to
explain feelings that can still provoke nervous titters among those
who invaring themselves condition. who imagine themselves sophisti-cated in these matters. So a restrained round of applause for Spank, which after all is the sound of one-hand clapping.

Spank will run at La Val's Subterranean Theatre in Berkeley through Jan. 29 Tickets are \$12. Call (510) 843-



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Getting his innuendo

An interview with author R.D. Zimmerman

by Gregg Shapiro

nnuendo, R.D. Zimmerman's latest "Todd Mills Mystery," brings Hollywood to the Midwest when rumored-to-be-gay movie star Tim Chase comes to Minneapolis to make a movie.
While he is there, a gay teenager is brutally murdered, making Chase's sexuality one of a handful of mysteries to be solved by investigative TV journalist Mills. Zimmerman wasn't mysterious at all when we recently spoke.

Gregg Shapiro: As a writer who is known to work in a particular genre, do you tend to read only mysteries?

R.D. Zimmerman: I tend to only read within my genre. A: It's what I like to read. B: It's also a way of learning, because I learn from every book. I learn from every sentence in every book. If I'm reading somebody else's work, it's like, "Well, that's a cool sentence," or "This is a cool twist," or "Why did they do that? I don't think it works." I like reading the mystery genre because there's always strong story-line. I think story is what's missing in a lot of modern

Is there a particular mystery writer who excels at the story-line? And what about one from whom you've learned the most?

One book, in my early career, that-really influenced my writing was

The Spy Who Came In from the Cold by John LeCarre. I had worked in the Soviet Union, for the US Information Agency, and my first books were set in Russia, and my first book was a spy thriller. I learned a lot from The Spy Who Came In From The Cold. I thought that it was very taut, very expertly plotted and paced. A writer that I'm reading a lot these days and enjoying a lot is Michael

Can you say a little something about your process for creating the scenario for a mystery?

When you're a writer, you have to be a sort of open funnel, and everything goes into your head, and you never know what's going to come out of your fingertips when you're typing away. To start a book, I'm always looking for an idea that I can obsess about, something that I'm going to be able to sit in a room with for a long, long time, like a year, and work on every day. In the case that inspired Innuendo, I heard a story about a supposedly gay movie star. I thought, "This is a very interesting little situation, how can I turn that into a mystery?"

The process that I use is to continually ask, "What if?" Just coming at it from every different direction possible and trying to

direction possible and trying to pull it in as many different directions as possible.

Innuendo speaks to our culture's fascination with the private lives of celebrities. How fascinated are

R.D.ZIMMERMAN

you with that subject?

I was outed as a gay teenager, and I went back into the closet for a long time. I may be obsessed with this idea of inner truth and outer this idea of inner truth and outer truth. The lies we tell ourselves and the lies that we tell others. On the one hand, when you hear about a gay movie star who claims to be straight, that's a private matter. If a person does project himself as a straight star and a straight hero, then has a private life that is gay, I find that very disturbing. The reason is that it hits on that old chord that plagued me and that was beaten into me, that if people find out the truth of who you are, then you are going to lose you are, then you are going to lose everything. I think that sends a terrible message to America that says that straight people can't look up to gay people and that gay people can't look up to themselves. I find that offensive and damage to both straight people and gay to both straight people and gay people. It's a disservice to every-

In Innuendo, you have peppered the story-line with several different topics including gay teens, married bisexuals, and HIV, and they're all tied neatly into the story

This is my thirteenth book, and I know that everything you throw in has got to somehow advance the plot or somehow thicken the characters without distracting. You can't digress. You can't have two characters stop at a motel and have a quickie unless it somehow changes or furthers the plot somehow. You do put in all these somehow. You do put in all these things, like an open relationship versus a closed relationship, to give some meat to the bones of the story. I don't think people realize the sophistication of the mystery novel. They don't give it credit as a modern-day parable. Innuendo might not be the great American novel, but to me it's a reflection of the time that I was working on it.



There seems to be a flourishing literary scene in Minneapolis, where you live.

Yes, there is. It's a very easy place Yes, there is. It's a very easy place to live for the right reasons. It's easy to got around, it's easy to do things. Everything's accessible. There are a lot of interesting things going on. It's stimulating without being distracting. Maybe someday, somebody will figure it out, but I think when there's a lot of the property of the stimulating without being distracting. of water around, I don't know why, but it always stimulates my creative brain cells.

If Innuendo were to be made into

Please. I don't have any faith in Hollywood. Go on.

...who would you like to see play Todd Mills?

There are any number of actors out there who could do a wonderful job. If it happens, and I've had a couple of nibbles, it will have to come from the independents. I have had a very difficult time getting a film agent to represent the book in Hollywood, and the reason is that it's got a gay main character, and I find that insulting.

Not only that, but he's a gay main character in his 40s.

I'm in my 40s, and my life is richer and broader than ever. I've heard it said that gay men age in dog years after turning 40, and I think that's such a pathetic bunch of shit. When I made the decision to

write a book with a gay main character, a gay hero, it didn't even occur to me not to write him as close to me as possible. Even though Todd's not me, in terms of age and life experience, he is. I wasn't going to write myself out. I wasn't going to be ageist about it. It didn't even occur to me to be that way.

REVIEW

swirl of rumors

by Jim Piechota

Innuendo by R.D. Zimmerman; Delacorte Press, \$21.95

he latest installment of his he latest installment of his immensely successful Todd Mills mystery books, R.D. Zimmerman's, Innuendo is a strong addition to a series of great promise. In fact, it appears as if the author is only getting better. Glamorous Hollywood hunk

Glamorous Hollywood hunk actor Tim Chase comes to Minneapolis to shoot a new film, only to find that his self-propelled reputation as a loving, caring family man is in jeopardy. Running from long-standing rumors that he is gay, Chase becomes the media target of our hero, Todd Mills, the series' openly gay journalist, who's hoping for an exclusive in-depth interview and maybe a "revelation" from one of Hollwwood's hottest actors. Hollywood's hottest actors.

Hollywood's hottest actors.

Zimmerman steps up the action quickly when Mills and his lover, detective Steve Rawlins, discover that 17-year-old Andrew Lyman had been found stabbed to death. The pair knew the boy from their volunteer efforts at the gay and lesbian youth center where he stayed. Murder suspects are few, with the most surprising one being Tim Chase himself. Then an enraged Rawlins walks in on him and Todd doing a little more in doubt in treating the heir had.

one being Tim Chase himself. Then an enraged Rawlins walks in on him and Todd doing a little more in-depth interviewing than is professionally appropriate.

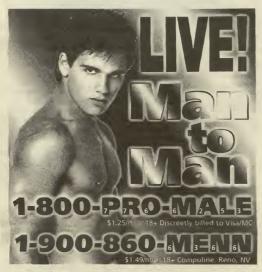
Zimmerman is in top form here, and as with his previous books such as the excellent Outburst, he delivers an appealing mix of tightly-paced plotting, dramatically-tempered dialogue, and of course, hot men. The action's always believable, and the mystery's loose ends are gathered plausibly without ever rushing to a hurried, scattered conclusion. Zimmerman is best at injecting clever plot twists into the narrative, and, with a sensitive nod toward the often difficult and complex lives of gay and lesbian youth, the story delivers on many different levels for both long-time fans and new readers.

After Innuendo's rousing finale, pairing hot, steamy sex with thrilling action, I was left to ponder whether the closeted Tim Chase was actually the author's thinly-veiled version of Tom Cruise. We may never know, but that's yet another Hollywood mystery to sleuth. In the meantime, R.D. Zimmerman's got our full attention. ▼



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Image Leather

The \$25,000 bonanza

by Mister Marcus

ast Thursday, January 6, the Board of Directors of SM-Board of Directors of SM-MILE presented a check to representatives of the AIDS Emer-gency Fund and Positive Resources in the amount of \$25,000, to be split equally. That sum rep-resents the net proceeds from sales of the 2000 Bare Chest Cal-endar, as well as from the two aucendar, as well as from the two auctions for dinner dates with the calendar men. Those hunky men worked long and hard on fundraising during the last year, and came up with wads of dough. The \$25,000 represents an increase of some \$4,000 over last year's net total. On hand for the

check presentation were smiling and obviously grateful represen-tatives from both nonprofit AIDS

service organizations.

Also on deck for the presentation were representatives from Miller Brewing and Golden Brands, who received a standing ovation for their sponsorship of the calendar.

All this ceremony took place during a break in the Mr. January 2001 competition that same

top spot: Chuck Bolick, Nick Knight, Ed Morgan, Johannes Van Vugt and Andre Zervan. They did their utmost to im-press a bunch of tough judges: Bob Brunson, Bill Hubbard, Jerry Poberts and Tow Willey.

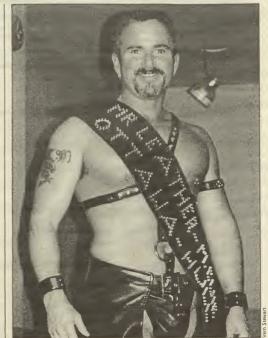
Roberts and Tom Wallace.

After the question and answer period, the interviews, and the period, the interviews, and baring of chests, the winner that night was Nick Knight, who was officially declared Mr. January 2001. The runner-up for the title was Charles Bolick.

It was another rollicking interlude Every

It was another rollicking interlude. Everyone was in high spirits,
and I'm happy to see
Calendar 2001 off and
running. Next up: Mr.
February 2001 will be
chosen on Thursday, January 20,
at 2100 hours.
And while I'm at it, be remind-

And while I'm at it, be remindcompetition, you can compete



Dean Ross of Ottawa, Canada, will sash his successor at the Mid-Atlantic Leather competition in Washington, DC on Sunday, January 16.

only two times — no exceptions. If you don't win a spot after that, you may want to try next year.

Off to the capital

Hundreds of leather people will flock to Washington, D.C. this coming weekend to attend the Centaur MC's annual Leather Weekend and the

selection of Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 2000 on Sunday afternoon, January 16. Everybody will be there!

Everybody, that is, except Jerry Roberts, who will be happily sunning himself on a private yacht off the coast of Costa Rica. I think Jerry is an Aztec. He is the most ardent sun worshipper I have ever met — aside from

George Hamilton — but better looking!

For everyone in D.C., there will be the usual rounds of parties, brunches, lunches, cocktails, a meet & greet, and a dance on this Martin Luther King holiday week-

Since Mayerick Reynolds will also *not* be attending, I guess I'll just have to go to the Follies all by

myself! Awwwww!

Those of us attending will witness Dean Ross of Ottawa, Cananess Dean Ross of Ottawa, Canada sash his successor; the winner will go on to compete at Int'l. Mr. Leather next May. We'll also get to see the judges for this year's competition in action: Dean Ross, Amy Marie Meek, Bruce Chopnik, Jon Knight, John Weis, Danny Carbonell and our own Int'l. Ms. Leather Bay Moure.

Carbonel and our own inti. Ms. Leather Pam Meyer.

To Dean Ross: thanks for a great year with the title. All your friends here in the lower 48 wish you well in all your future endeavors.

Irreplaceable losses

San Francisco's leather community lost two of its most productive citizens in the first week of January. It is never an easy thing to report the passing over of any-one, but know that Grant Dupont and Lou Greene have left us for the great beyond, and the com-munity is saddened by this turn of

events.

Lou Greene was probably the oldest living member of the San Francisco GDI's. He was involved in the printing business, and for many years published a monthly directory of bars and businesses which were posted conspicuously in virtually every gas establishin virtually every gay establishment. His life was dedicated to service within the bike clubs and beyond. At my deadline, I had recveived no word of a memorial

service.

Grant Dupont — a transplanted leather man from South Africa — was involved in many worthy causes during his stint with this community. He was a bare chest calendar man, was Mr. Watering Hole, and for the past two years,

next page



Nick Knight won the Mr. January 2001 spot on the bare chest calendar last Thursday, Jan. 6 at the Powerhouse. Mr. February 2001 will be chosen on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 2100.

Polkzapoppin'

by Sweet Lips

olk Street, yes dear old Polk-

olk Street, yes dear old Polk-strasse, is perpetually pop-pin' these days. Great bar bands and great bar crowds are buzzing in Kimo's Pent-house, under the able direction of Tyler. The birthday **Cocktail Hour**

Iyler. The birthday party for Bob Golovich at the Giraffe last Sunday was gr-rrreat! — rest assured, there will be another. Plus, there are plans afoot for a really big Super Bowl party at the Club Rendez-Vous, so start marking your cal-

endars. You bet your bottom dollar

her stuff at the Gold Room on Geary, and doing it well, I might add. And while you're in the Ten-derloin, Hal Call's "Circle I" Club is still one of the

more popular spots to go jack off, especially if Dildora Bob is working. What a wonderful world

Your auntie Sweet Lips wants to wish a belated happy a belate birthday to Dolly Dale's Agnes than

mom Agnes
McMinn — better later than
never, Agnes, dear. Lips says that
waiting for other stuff to pop, too.
Watch for changes still to come
at the Rendez-Vous. L. James is

putting up a new picture wall that



Ronnie Lynn, now appearing at Club Rendez-Vous

should be quite something to behold, and of course, David Kapp always has something up his sleeve. Yessiree, there's always something going on down Polkstrasseway.



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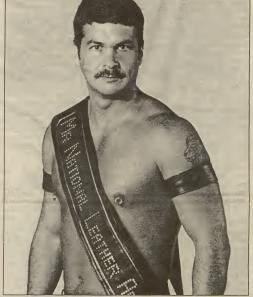
previous page

he was the producer of the Leather Pride Walk which is the official kickoff event for San Fran-cisco's Leather Pride Week each September. He was a gifted leather maker at both a Taste of Leather and most recently at Image Leather. The community was shocked to learn of Grant's departure. He had been planning to move to New Orleans for health reasons.

A celebration of Grant's life will take place at Daddy's Bar on will take place at Daddy's Bar on Saturday, January 30, from 1400-1700 hours. At that time, an offi-cial announcement will be made that Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt will take over the Leather Pride Walk event next September. I am absolutely sure Grant would have been pleased at this announcement. Hope to see all of you at the memorial service for a man who was a shining example of leather pride.

Elsewhere

Last Saturday, January 8, John-ny Gray, proprietor of Shades of Gray Leathers in Dallas, got back into the contest-producing game after a hiatus from producing the Gulf Coast Drummer Contests. He managed to get Fred Katz (DV8-NY), Ken Claude and Jim Sergeni of Houston, Parker Perry from Oklahoma City, plus Ann Brown, Jim Richards and Jim



Mark Frazier was named Mr. Dallas Leather 2000 last Saturday, Jan. 8. He will compete for the Int'l. Mr. Leather title in Chicago in May

Hawkins of Dallas, to judge the Mr. Dallas Leather 2000 contest held at the Dallas Eagle. Some 376 leather people were in attendance

and there were five contestants.

When all the categories were judged and compiled, Mark Fra-

zier walked away with the title. He will compete at Int'l. Mr. Leather in May. He was also Mr. NLA-International and the co-chair of that organization. I daresay, the competition in Chicago will be very rough next May!





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EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend January 14-17

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest highlights the Centaurs MC annual leather weekend in Washington, D.C., where Dean Ross, Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 1999, passes the sash to a worthy candidate. Results next week.

Saturday, January 15

Bears of SF beer/soda bust at the Lone Star, 1500-1900, for \$7 w/raffle tickets & prizes. It benefits the David Dysart Memorial Scholarship Fund for IBB2000.

Wednesday, January 19

Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. Clothes check is mandatory; doors open 2100-2300. Show off your Xmas undie gifts! Hi Brad!

Thursday, January 20

Mr. February 2001 will be chosen around 2100 at the Powerhouse with judges. Win \$100, fame, star-dom . . . a new husband? Benefits AEF.

Weekend January 21-23

Leatherfest 2000 at Suncoast Resort in St. Peters-burg, Florida. Includes erotic fashion show, black-out party, demos, private dungeon, and the Mr. Suncoast Eagle leather contest.

Friday, January 21

Exiles of SF annual hot video night with female BDSM videos — always a turn-on for women into the genre. Doors open 1930; videos start at 2000. \$3 members/\$5 others. At the Women's Bldg. Call 487-5170 for details.

Saturday, January 22

Pegasus Motorcycle Owners Club overnight ride to Guerneville. No details furnished at deadline. GDI's celebrate their 26th Anniversary at the Eagle, 1900-2200. Admittance by invitation or club overlay only.

Wednesday, January 26

The Ring meets at Club Eros for "Pain Manage ment for Bottoms." Doors open 1830 to 1900 only. No admittance after that. Free. For more info, call 487-0883 or email: thering@ix.netcom.com.

Leather Buddies night at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2100-2300 only. You know the rules: boots mandatory, no cologne. Leather wear mandatory.

Mr. March 2001 will be chosen at the Powerhouse at 2100 tonight. New judges. Win \$100, fame. To benefit AIDS charities, of course.

Fri 14

Magic Theatre

Magic I neatre
Festival of Lesbian Playwrights presents a workshop production of Claire
Chafee's Five Women On A Hill In
Spain. A group of women are vacationing in Spain in 1963, during the
voyage of the first female cosmonaut.
\$15. 8:30pm. Also on 1/15, 21 & 22.
Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center. Info:
441-8822.

aving experienced the divine aura of the Buddha him-

the Buddha himself, in the screen persona of Keanu Reeves, and witnessed the trials and tribulations of the Tibetan people, as per the movie Kundun, I can safely say I know as much about Buddhism as most Americans.

My distilled under-

standing of Buddhist be-lief is that the goal of human life is to reach a state of enlightenment, or nirvana, and that getting

there requires enormous self discipline. One must let go of all attachments

— to persons, things, places, perhaps even the senses of time and des-

Americans.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

tiny — and clear the mind of thoughts, experiencing complete inner silence, inner peace. Surely if Keanu Reeves can do it, anyone can.

Sure, worldwide Buddhist traditions vary, and schisms here and

Sure, worldwide Buddhist traditions vary, and schisms here and there cause friction and occasional unfriendliness — but by and large, it seems to me, Buddhists can be relied on to be less greedy, less warlike, less self-righteous, and generally more agreeable (outside of bars) than most of their Christian counterparts. So it makes sense to pay attention to what Buddhism is all about, and to size up where it's heading in the world.

Fortunately, I am but a mere cipher, here only to point you in the direction of those far wiser in matters related to one of the world's sanest religious traditions. Thus I call your attention to a series about to be undertaken by the fine folks at the San Francisco Zen Center. This venerable institution, which has long served as a haven of tranquillity at its three Bay Area locations, is about to launch "Buddhism at Millennium's Edge 2000," an II-month series, starting this Saturday, that features lectures and workshops

series, starting this Saturday, that features lectures and workshops by 12 renowned Buddhist authors, poets, scholars, teachers, and

Got Buddha?

Opening night party & film: "Berlin & Beyond," new films from Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Tonight: Max Färberböck's Aimée & Jaguar, in Max I - Araberbock's Almee & Jaguar, I which a love affair blossoms between two women in 1943, while the Allies are bombing Berlin and the Gestapo i purifying the capital of Jews. \$15 (including party at 6:30pm). Screening at 8pm. Castro & Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: online at ticketweb.com.

Jon Sims Lenter
Alkspace arists in residence Minal
Hajratwala presents a laboratory performance of "Navatars: Gods for the
New Millennium." It's the story of one
young woman's journey of religious
exploration, beginning with reflections
on the strict patriarchy of an American Hindu community and a humorous
critique of how Asian spirituality is
filtered through white American culture. The central theme is the creation Intered through white American cul-ture. The central theme is the creation — through self-discovery — of a new religion with a pantheon of deities reigning over the concerns of a post-modern age. Followed by audience/artist discussion, \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Info: 554-

Studio @ Rhino

Studio @ Rhino
"Broadway Ballbusters," a man-bash
ing musical review conceived by Eric
Brizee and Alan Fricke, directed by
Allen Sawyer and John Karr. Featuring performers Eric Brizee, Jorge
Hernandez, Gary Wayne Farris, pianist Alan Fricke, and a score of
Broadway tunes about break-ups,
breakdowns, and how gay men do
what they do to beguile, \$14-\$15.
8:30pm. Wed.-Sat. through Feb. 5.
The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros,
2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

Geary Theater

American Conservatory Theater Artistic Director Carey Perloff directs the American premiere of Tom Stoppard's most recent play, The Invention of Love, a dream play that portrays the life of the English classicist and poet life of the English classicist and poet A.E. Housman, who lived his entire adult life in unrequited love for his Oxford classmate and school track star, Moses Jackson, \$14-\$46 Tue-Thu. & Sun. eves; \$19-\$55 Frl. & Sat. eves. 415 Geary St. Tix: 749-2228 or BASS outlets.

Venue 9
Women's Work Jubilee. Tonight: Return to Spoonland by Mary Armentrout (a gently absurdist dance piece depicting the peculiar and strangely beautiful way we go through life completely alone, but inexorably connected to each other), and Warzone by Carrie Kartman (a one-woman play taking the audience through a series of dark fairy tales and a rich family history both comical and disturbing). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: "Love! Valour! Compassion!" the Tony Award-winning drama by Terrence McNally, \$13-\$22. 8pm. Previews thru Jan. 21. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix: 861-8972.

Fine Arts Cinema, Berkeley Closing night, "Indie Fest," the San Francisco Independent Film Festival Tonight: Smoke and Mirrors lonight: Smoke and Mirrors (5:15pm); Dill Scallion (7:15pm); Pups (9:30pm). Party follows last screening, at nearby location. \$7:50 per film. 12451 Shattuck Ave. (at Haste). Tix: 421-TIXS.

A Different Light

Peter Nardi, author of Gay Men's Friendships: Invincible Communities, discusses how friendships have helped gay men survive the worst of times. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-

Muddy's Coffeehouse

SF Games, a healthy alternative way for people to meet in a friendly envifor people to meet in a friendly envi-ronment. Open to everyone, all ages, all skill levels. Play Spades, Hearts, Scrabble, Dominoes, backgammon, Cribbage and more. Bring your fa-vorite games, too. If you don't know any games, others will teach you. Free. 7pm-midnight. 1304 Valencia St. (at 24th). Info: David at 679-3678.

ODC Theater

"Flight 2," the second installment of a new, curated series supporting emerging choreographers. Featuring

original works by Lea Wolf and Dana Lawton. Wolf's dances use an original Lawton. Wolf's dances use an original dance vocabulary to examine the intimate geography of human relations. Lawton's work reflects her interest in the kinetic and visceral marriage between music and dance. \$10 advance; \$12 door. 8pm. Also on Sat., Jan. 15. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Red Vic Movie House

Red Vic Movie House Brad Pitt displays his well-honed mus cular talent in David Fincer's "Fight Club," co-starring Edward Norton as a desperately bored white-collar work er who links up with Pitt to found a fight club. With Helena Bonham-Carter. \$6.50 adults. Fri. & Mon.: 7:15 & 10pm. Sat. & Sun.: 2, 4:35, 7:15 & 10pm. 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

New College Cultural Center New College Cultural Center Small Press Traffic presents poets Ak-ilah Oliver and Hugh Steinberg. A founding member of the L.A. based feeminist performance art collective, The Sacred Nature Girls, Oliver teaches at Naropa Institute in Boulder. Her work appeared most recently in Blood and Tears: Poems for Matthew Shepard. Steinberg teaches writing at California College of Arts and Crafts. \$5. fornia College of Arts and Crafts. \$5. 7:30pm. 766 Valencia St.

550 Barneveld

Thump Radio presents "((Thump)))," an all-night dance party featuring the best psytrance, drum 'n' bass, and downtempo DJs in the Bay Area. Live: S.U.N. Project (Hamburg, Germany: Spiral Trax Records). 21+w/ID. Info: 441-1899.

Sat 15

Braunstein/Quay Gallery

Braunstein/Quay Gallery
Opening reception: "White Boys,"
new paintings, drawings and sculpture
by Bruce Burris, a staunch social activist and storyletler whose unconventional image- and text-filled works address stories not often discussed by society. For Burris, the South is a magnifying glass for society's downfalls.
"White Boys" satirically examines
Southern culture and the power of
white men in political and religious
roles. Free. 3:30-5:30pm. 430
Clementina (btwn. 5th & 6th). 2789850.

Baby by Kerry Gaither (three dancers portray "Baby," signifying endear-ment, derision and childhood), and Serial Murderess by Amanda Moody (a look at three very different women and the murders they committed).

Dan Pillers' stuffed Bound is part of his ongoing one-man exhibit at 743 Harrison

\$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

Metropolitan

Community Church
The Castro Tenants Union meets to set goals, establish a structure and decigoals, establish a structure and decision-making procedure, pick a name, choose officers, identify issues, select priorities, begin projects, and get up and running. Emphasis will be on matters concerning renters in the Castro, but participation is open to anyone who is a residential tenant in San Francisco. Free. 1pm. 150 Eureka St., second floor. Info: Tommi Avicolli Mecca at 552-6031.

Castro Theater

Castro Theater
Berlin & Beyond film festival. Today:
The Shoe (12:15pm); Requiem for A
Romantic Woman (2pm); The Aprilchildren (4:30), Night Shapes (7pm);
Sneak Preview (9:30pm). \$7 per film
(\$75 for festival passes). Castro &
Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: online
at ticketweb.com.

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano

Fiesta de Invierno, the monthly potluck party for all Spanish-speaking Bay Area gay men and their friends. For details, call Javier at 550-0388.

California Club

Cantrornia Club
SwingOut! presents "Queer Swing
Dance(s)." Beginning swing lessons 78:30pm (no partner necessary). Dancing to '40s big band music till midnight. \$5-\$3.0 sliding (NOTAFLOF).
1750 Clay St. (btwn. Polk & Van
Ness). Info: 339-8103.

Sun 16

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Mor-gan Territory hike. The Volvon Loop Trail meanders through sandstone hills, oak woodland and grassy slopes. It's a moderate 8-10-mile hike with



Dana Lawton and Torkel dance in at ODC Theater. See Friday.

series, starting this Saturday, that features lectures and workshops by 12 renowned Buddhist authors, poets, scholars, teachers, and civic leaders. They will be addressing the relevance of traditional Buddhist practices to contemporary life.

Saturday's opening program invites renowned Tibetan Buddhist Robert Thurman to the lectern, there to expound on "Global Transformation as Inner Revolution." As professor of Indo-Tibetan Studies at Columbia University in New York, the author of many books in his field, and the father of actress Uma Thurman, Robert Thurman is uniquely qualified to present the grand picture of 21st century Buddhism in all its cinematic (and spiritual) glory. The following day, January 16, Thurman conducts a workshop entitled "The Blade Wheel of Mind Reform," referring to the steps leading to enlightenment, and to the blade wheel as a fierce form of the surgical blade of critical wisdom.

Whether Thurman will address Buddhism's relevance to gays and lesbians in this new century remains to be seen. I suspect he will attempt something far more general, aiming to be inclusive of all people. That might leave some of us unsatisfied. I suggest, therefore, that anyone wishing to learn how gays and lesbians have adapted Buddhist beliefs to their lives pick up a copy of Winston Leyland's Queer Dharma: Voices of Gay Buddhists. Or drop by the Hartford Street Zen Center (57 Hartford St.) for meditation and practice. If you sit zazen long enough, you might finally clear your practice. If you sit zazen long enough, you might finally clear your mind of everything but Keanu Reeves. ▼

"Buddhism at Millennium's Edge 2000" lectures are \$15 each (\$165 for lecture series), held at the Unitarian Center (1187 Franklin St. at Geary). Workshops are \$75 each (\$60 each for Zen Center members), held either at Green Gulch Farm in Marin County or at Zen Center's Beginner's Mind temple in San Francisco. For details, phone 863-3133.

an approx. 1,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:45am under the large Safe-way sign at Dolores and Market. Club info: 487-6410.

Castro Theater

"Berlin & Beyond" film festival.
Today: Opera Fanatic (1pm); Herr
Zwilling und Frau Zuckermann;
(3:30pm); Tuvalu (6:10pm); Kubanisch Rauchen (8:30pm); and Echte Kerle (10:30pm). Castro & Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: online at ticketweb.com

A Different Light

Marian Michener will reads selections from and discuss her debut novel, Dreaming Under a Ton of Lizards, a tale of lesbian love, longing, friendship and recovery. It catapults the reader into the lethal world of alcohol addiction. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Venue 9

Warzone by Carrie Kartman, and Nize Joosh Golfz by Terry Baum and Margery Kreitman (it asks: What do a disembodied nose, a gangster grandma, a radical dyke, and the original Eve all have in common?). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom) 289 2000. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

Cafe Du Nord

Benefit for Theater Rhinoceros, featuring performance art, live music, and DJs. \$5. 7pm. 2170 Market St. 861-5106

City Nights

Jito Presents "Time 2," featuring Lydia Prim, resident DJ at the Parade in New Orleans, returning to San Francisco following her stellar debut Francisco following her stellar debut at the Real Bad party last September. Time 2 serves as an official pre-party to Winter Party 2000 in Miami; two Winter Party weekend passes will be given away at the event. \$20 at the door; \$15 prior to 7pm. 6pm— 2am. 715 Harrison St, (at 3rd). Info: 552-5900

Mon 17

Exploratorium

San Francisco's popular museum of science, art and human perception will be open special holiday hours in will be open special holiday hours in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, \$9 adults; \$7 university st dents/seniors; \$5 youth. 10am-5pm. Palace of Fine Arts, 3601 Lyon St. (Marina District). Info: EXP-LORE.

Castro Theater

Castro Theater
Berlin & Beyond film festival. Today:
Late Show (12 noon); Short Films
(2:30pm); Paths in the Night
(4:15pm); Hans Warns—My 20th
Century (7:15pm); Oskar und Leni
(9:40pm). Castro & Market. Info:
621-6120. Tix: online at
ticketweh com

Tue 18

Plush Room

Paula West returns, offering her dis-tinctive blend of romantic, smoky swing and intelligent, lyrical jazz stylings, including music from her CD asynings, including music from her CD Restless. With pianist/arranger Ken Muir and bassist Bill Douglass. \$20 cover (\$25 Fri. & Sat.) plus 2-drink minimum. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. (btwn. Leavenworth & Hyde). Tix: 885-2800.

Yerba Buena Center

Yerba Buena Center
The San Francisco Contemporary
Music Players present "New World
Quilt," featuring the music of Aaron
Copland, Melinda Wagner, Ronald
Caltabiano, and Mario Davidovsky.
Guest conducted by George Thomson.
Of particular note is Caltabiano's
"Quilt Panels," a grand paean to the
lost lives commemorated by the AIDS
quilt. \$18 (\$14 seniors; \$7 students).
Bym (pre-concert discussion at 7pm).
The Forum at Yerba Buena Center for
the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at Third).
Tix: 978-ARTS.
Castro Theader

Castro Theater

Castro Theater
Berlin & Beyond film festival. Today:
The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (7pm; restored film with original color tints and tone; live music by Club Foot Orchestra); Pastry, Pain & Politics (9pm); ID Swiss (9:30pm). Castro & Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: online at ticketweb.com.



Karen Goldstein performs in Born Freek at Venue 9. See Thursday

Wed 19

Marin Theatre Company, Mill Valley

"Live on the Alsle," an exclusive gay and lesbian night at the theatre, pre-mieres Mister Schpill & Mister Tip-peton by Gilles Segal, translated from the French by Sara O'Connor. Set in a the French by Sara O'Connor. Set in a circus tent, the play centers on Schpill (Jeff Raz), a long-time clown, and his partner Tippeton (Nick Botello), a dwarf, the only two remaining performers from a touring circus. Cosponsored by the Marin Stonewall Alliance. Wine & hors d'oeuvres reception at 6pm. Speaker (relevant to the play) at 7:15pm. Performance at 8pm. \$28. Marin Theatre Co., 397 Miller Ave., Mill Valley. Tix: (415) 388-5208.

CenterStage, Marin

CenterStage, Marin
Cabaret star Andrea Marcovicci premieres her new show, "Our
Songs...1965-85." The same scrutiny
she's always devoted to Rodgers &
Hart and Noel Coward she'fl apply to
Peter, Paul & Mary, the Beatles,
Carly Simon, Joni Mitchell, Paul
Simon, Judy Collins, Bruce Springsteen, Don Maclean and other artists
dear to the Baby Boom generation.
\$20 (tonight only; subsequent nights
\$28), 7:30pm, Also on 1/20
(7:30pm), 1/22 & 23 (8pm). Hoytt
Theater, Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro
Road, San Rafael. Tix: 479-2000 or
478-2277 (BASS).

A Traveling Jewish Theatre Jewish Music Wednesdays presents the world premiere of Batrineasca, a brass band playing Jewish/Ukrain-ian/Moldavian border music. Such in-strumental folk music once thrived in strumental folk music once thrived in the Ukraine, but has been all but obliterated due to the Russian Revolu-tion and the Holocaust. \$12. 8pm. 470 Florida St. (btwn. 17th & Marl-posa). Tix/info: 399-1809.

A Different Light

Edward Stein, author of The Mismea-sure of Desire: The Science, Theory and Ethics of Sexual Desire, discusses three important questions raised in the book: How does sexual orientation develop, is it a brain or gene thing, and why do we care? Free. 7:30pm.

Get Lost Travel Books

Brad Olsen, author of Sacred Places, returns to show slides and discuss 101 sacred places around the globe. Free. 7pm. 1825 Market St. Info: 437-0529.

Castro Theater

Berlin & Beyond film festival. Today: Dragonland (2pm); Places in Cities (4pm);The Einstein of Sex (7pm); Snow on New Year's Eve (9:30pm) Castro & Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: online at ticketweb.com.

Thu 20

Opening night: "Haggard Tiercel,"

written and directed by David Ford, performed by Warren David Keith. In the middle of winter, a man stares fixedly at a pigeon — bait for the winged god of desire. A wild, comic autopsy of a married man's libido. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Thru Feb. 19. 1062 Valencia St. (near 22nd St.). 826-5750.

Yerba Buena Center

Yerha Buena Center
San Francisco Performances presents
French-born choreographer Jacques
Heim and his Diavolo Dance Theater
in Catapult: La Comedie Humaine.
The evening-length work focuses on
the evolution of the living room couch,
from ancient stone slab to post-modern plastic, to investigate the waiting,
worrying, fighting and dying that
make up the human condition. Orioimake up the human condition. make up the human condition. Original music score by Michel Colombier \$18 & \$25 (\$22 & \$28 Fri. & Sat., Jan. 21 & 22). 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix: 392-4400.

Venue 9

Venue 9
Genesis Whispers by Priscilla Park (a
genderless being dreams of giving
birth to twins), and Born Freek by
Karen Goldstein (an autobiographical
look at an exotic dancer's search for
self-love). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252
Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom).
289-2000.

A Different Light

Felice Newman, author of The Whole Sex Book, discusses everything you always wanted to know about lesbian sex and more. Free. 7:30pm.

Catharine Clark Gallery

Opening reception: "Pink," an ironic look at Valentine's Day and the conventions associated with sex, Jove, and marriage. Featuring works by artists Aaron Plant, Jil Weinstock, Graham Gillmore, and Ted Julian Arnold. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 49 Geary St. 399-.1439

The Swallow

Valerie Quevedo performs accompa-nied by Larry O'Leno on Piano. No cover. 9:30pm. 1750 Polk St. (at Washington St.). Info: 775-4152.

Castro Theater

Closing night, Berlin & Beyond film festival. Tonight: Gloomy Sunday (7pm), followed by party. \$15. Castro & Market. Info: 621-6120. Tix: on-

WANNA SUBMIT?

event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday

This Week's Dinner Specials

Prime Rib au Jus with baked potato and \$15.95

N.Y. Pepper Steak with cracked black pepper, brandy-cream sauce, french fries and \$13.95

Chicken Picatta with temon-caper sauce

Chicken Cordon Bleu stuffed with baked ham & fontina cheese, served with vegetable, chef's rice or garllc mashed potatoes ...\$10.95

Grilled Fresh Salmon lemon-dill sauce, with vegetable, garlic mashed potatoes \$12.95

Cajun Fried Oysters or Calamari......\$6.75

Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th Breakfast/Lunch served from 9:00 AM Dinner Served from 5:00 PM









Tristan Paris

■ Arts cover

show went on (they covered it with make-up), but now Tristan's appearances with the company have to be renegotiated. And that's a fact which troubles the sweet

"It was my mistake to get my tattoo," Tristan admits to me. "I knew it was a risk, and I lost — I lost my second family!" he wails.

Tristan, who turned 23 just last

Friday, feels great loyalty to the company he started with when he was only 19. "I've been with Falcon for nearly four years," he exclaims, "so I am sorry. But I did it, and now I just hope we can work

It out."

Because he really loves being in porno. "I would lie if I said I don't like the sex, because I do," he says. "I love toys and big dicks. But in the beginning there was also the challenge of being in a video, es-pecially for a great company like Falcon. If you don't do good, they don't hire you again. It was a big doin front of the camera. So I like the challenge, and also the excite-ment of the cameras and the lights. And I like the chemistry with people when you meet them on the street."

Head-turner

Ah, yes. The attention. Tristan likes the attention. Why else are we meeting in a restaurant where it's so noisy I can't tape our con-versation, but must laboriously

versation, but must laboriously take down everything by hand? And when we leave the restaurant, and heads swivel to follow our route, he says, "Did you see that?"

Of course I saw that; it's fun. Yet although it's easy glide from exhibition skating to exhibitionism, where the payoff is more direct and personal, Tristan isn't a merely a preening ego with a prick. "I like the attention," he states matter of factly, "but I've become aware of its negative aspects. Sometimes people judge me only Sometimes people judge me only for physical things, or because of what I do, and it confuses me —

do they like me as a person?

"But the best thing for myself is that I'm very happy," he concludes, and rising to the challenge of his work is fulfilling. For example, ever the consummate professional Tristan is very conscious of ple, ever the consummate professional, Tristan is very conscious of his cum shots. "I was tired during the filming of Skuff," he reveals, "so I had to use an overhand technique to guard the view, because I knew I wasn't going to cum much. But I came twice in In Deep," he brags, "and that was good.

"What don't I like about porn? Having to watch my diet. After a shoot, I eat a big slice of pizza.

shoot, I eat a big slice of pizza. And it's always a stress when you're on contract — if you hurt yourself or age, your career is over. So I try to be careful, because I'd like to make movies until I'm

So he's hoping that the abrupt change in his working status with Falcon can be resolved with a new contract allowing him to appear for their Jocks or Mustang divi-sions. Meantime, he's hardly inactive. Among his other upcoming options, as trenchant readers of the BAR will have discovered, Tristan has an ad in the Classifieds section announcing his legit services as a Swedish masseur. It's a skill he learned in his hometown,

Montreal, years before he left it.
But it wasn't Falcon that originally brought him to San Francisco. "Truthfully," he admits, "I came here for love. He sent me an airplane ticket, and that's how I

found San Francisco.

"After a month, it didn't work we were friends, not lovers. So

I went home - I was only 18!" I went home — I was only 18!" And it was there that Tristan was introduced to Chi Chi LaRue, who brought the ripe lad back to San Francisco, where stardom lay awaiting.

Silver skates

Although he was new to porn, Tristan had been dreaming of a show biz career since childhood. He'd tagged along to big sister's ballet class, and ended up studying for two years. That led to a decade of figure skating — an athletic art which calls for such acute and arcane skills as, say, the upthrusting of the butt. Think of skaters, always rushing in reverse with ass held high as if to impale their very hub upon some beckoning pole. And think of the colossal, shapely firmness of Tristan's ass and thighs, and the control with which he wields them. From dancing to skating to sexing, there's a conti-nuity of skill in Tristan's tale, as well as a hunger for things physical, exuberant, joyful.
"I was on The Canadian Team,

the highest grade skaters in my country," Tristan tells me. "I travcountry, Instant etis nic. Thav-eled with them, giving exhibi-tions. And I did some hockey. My dad wanted me to play hockey, and my mom wanted skating. There came a time when I had to make a choice," he says. "And I chose to be a figure skater." At which point he exclaims, "Thank you, Mom!"

you, Mom!"
"But if you ask me my
dreams," he confides, "I want to be
a singer." You may have heard
Tristan sing to Mecca's karaoke—
he's got a big, baritone Broadway
voice, which he demonstrated by breaking into the spookily ro-mantic title song from *The Phan-*tom of the *Opera* — in French! If that's not romantic enough, you can fantasize about his mas-

you can familiasize about his massage practice—and then forget it. "Of course, sometimes I have a beautiful client, and then the testosterone can fly with me," he declares. "But I stay professional!"

Here are some consoling tid-

bits for those of us who won't be literally in the palm of Tristan's hand. It was his idea to add a butt plug when he fucked Thom Bar-ron in *Fever*: "I like to feel something up there when I'm fucking someone," he candidly states. And in the tradition of old Hollywood in the tradition of old Hollywood studios, when Falcon loaned him to Hot House to appear in Skuff, "They got a young blonde guy with blue eyes who gets fisted in exchange," which explains how Johnny Rider came to Falcon. And

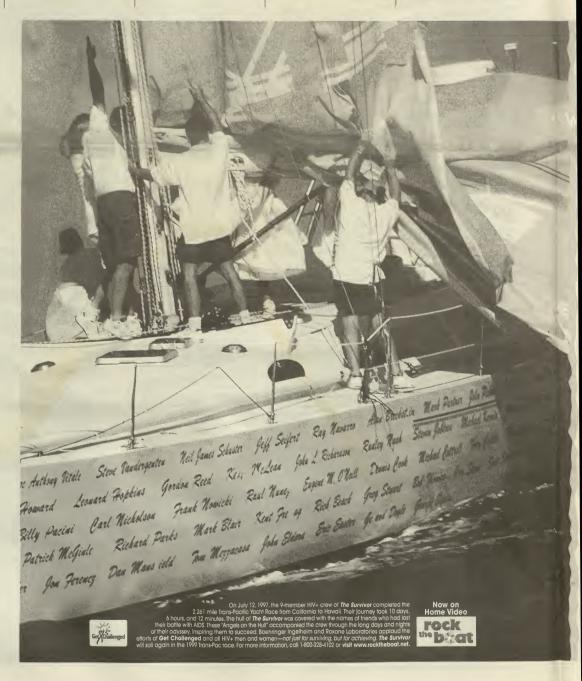
Tristan's first acting line in porn Tristan's first acting line in porn—"I'm glad you changed your mind"—made him nervous. "I would have liked to start with the sex," he says, "but you have to look fresh for the dialogue, so you do it first." Still, since he'd studied English as an exchange student, he wasn't fazed. wasn't fazed.

Other consolations Tristan is offering his fans include some live offering his fans include some live performances in clubs, and a new video he'll be shooting later this month for the venerable Catalina Video in Los Angeles. And sur-prise — it's a bisexual movie! "I like girls," he adroidy admits. "Es-pecially if they have a cute boyfriend! I like to double-fuck a girl, and then the other guy and I both cum on her face, and play with our cum and our cocks. It's

more gay that way, you know?"
After filming that little bit of subversion, Tristan is scheduled to subversion, Iristan is scheduled to audition for a spot in the touring company of *Chicago*. And then it wouldn't be at all surprising to find Tristan's singing and dancing bringing him broader fame. Peroringing nim broader tame. Perhaps his porn days are numbered. It's been great fun, but there's a whole world out there, and Tristan Paris is eager for it. Onward and upward with the arts, you know.



Porn star Tristan Paris



Bare facts about the movies

'Sin in Soft Focus' surveys censorship on the Silver Screen

by Tavo Amador

ovies featuring male nudity, homoeroticism, glorifi-cation of violence, sexual-ly aggressive (but uncastigated) women, fornication without mar-riage or commitment, and other riage or commitment, and other indications of the decline and fall of American morality — sounds like a current Christian fundamentalist call to arms, doesn't it? Well, Gary Bauer, Jerry Falwell, and Pat Robertson have arrived to the party late. As film historian Mark A. Vieira shows in Sin in Soft Focus (Abrams, \$39.95), these images terrified social conservatives in the 1920s and 1930s, resulting in the 1920s and 1930s, resulting in the Hollywood Production Code and the infamous Havs Of-Code and the infamous Hays Office, which enforced film censor-ship. In this lavishly illustrated and scrupulously researched work, Vieira shows the adult themes explored in films being made from 1930-1934, when enforcement of the long-existing

production code began in earnest. Contrary to popular belief, neither the Code nor the Hays Office were created in response to the phenomenal success of Mae West's first two starring vehicles for Paramount, She Done Him Wrong and I'm No Angel (both 1933), although the popularity of those films and their sensational leading lady galvanized social conservatives. What most dis-turbed them about West was that turbed them about West was that she was not only unrepentant and unpunished, she was rewarded for her wantonness. In fact, as Vieira points out, box-office hits from MGM, like Norma Shearer's randy *The Divorcee* (1930) and Joan Crawford's being *Possessed* by a married Clark Gable (1931), hed alsoftwarder of the control of the contro had already raised concerns.

Vieira demonstrates how the big studios — MGM, Paramount, Warners, 20th Century, Universal, and Fox — accepted self-censor-ship as preferable to government censorship of movies, a very real possibility. Seven states, including New York, had their own censor-ship boards, which would cut scenes they found offensive from films playing within their borders. Well-founded fears that more states would create their own boards, leading to artistic chaos boards, leading to artistic chaos and increased expenses for the studios, were of concern. Additionally, social conservatives threatened to force Congress to legislate against the lucrative practice of 'block booking," which forced exhibitors to accept a studie's entire film output, eather. dio's entire film output, rather than just the movies they wanted.

Mars queen

By focusing on the period from 1930-1934, when the code was developed but its enforce-ment uneven, Vieira shows just how frank films were. In Paid (1930), for example, Joan Crawford plays an unjustly imprisoned shopgirl. Vieira includes a still

from a scene cut from the final retrom a scene cut from the final re-lease, of Crawford and other fe-male inmates taking a communi-ty shower. One of the prisoners snarls, "Hey, sister, howdja like to kiss my..." In the bizarre-sounding science-fiction musical Just Imag-ine, Earthmen land on Mars, where they meet that planet's Queen and her rough bodyguard. When the latter caresses one of being raised about the Internet

Sin in Soft Focus not only shows how mature and candid pre-code Hollywood frequently was, it also demonstrates the long, sad legacy of the production code, which lasted until the late 1960s. So many subjects became taboo, compromising the quality — and believability — of many movies.



A 1924 portrait of Ramon Novarro as Judah Ben-Hur

the Earthmen, he shouts, "She's

the Earthmen, he shouts, "She's not the queen, he is!"

Although it's most remembered for focusing on sex, the Code was equally concerned about violence. The morality watchdogs were appalled when Edward G. Robinson became a star for Warners in 1930's Little star for Warners in 1930's Little Caesar. His electrifying portrayal of a gangster struck a responsive public chord that many found disturbing. Similarly, James Cagney's success for the same studio in Public Enemy (1931) created grave concerns about the glorification of killers.

rification of killers.

Horror films also were scrutinized. During the filming of Dracula (1931), Carl Laemmle, Jr.,
production head at Universal Studios, decreed that the Transylvanian count should "go only for
women and not men." Dracula was a hit, so Universal followed with Frankenstein (1931), which featured a scene in which the monster drowns a little girl. Cen-sors in New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania cut that sequence from prints shown in their

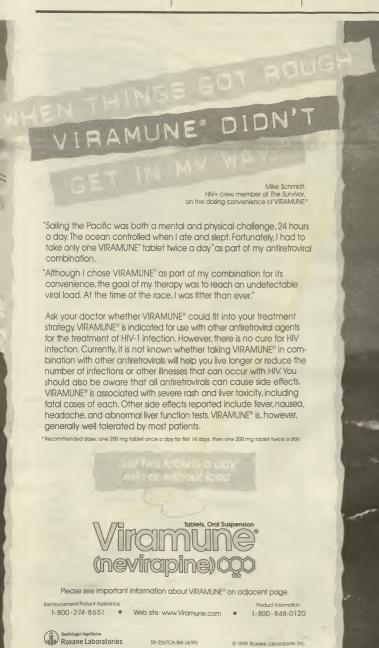
Vieira shows how instrumenvieira shows how instrumen-tal the Catholic Legion of Decen-cy and other religious groups were in the development and en-forcement of the Code. These self-appointed guardians of public morality were determined to control what constituted adult entertainment. Their fears and solutions sound alarmingly like those

Just a few examples: In 1947's Crossfire, Robert Ryan's murder-ous homophobe became a deadly anti-Semite, although much of his ous nomophoo became a deady anti-Semite, although much of his motivation is cloudy; in 1951's A Streetear Named Desire, Vivien Leigh's Blanche was not permitted to describe finding her new husband in bed with another man—a crucial bit of information; similarly, in 1958's Cat On a Hot Tin Roof, the fear Brick (Paul Newman) has about his latent homosexuality and its impact on his marriage to Maggie (Elizabeth Taylor) is omitted.

Vieira, who has previously published books on legendary photographer George Hurrell (Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits), and who is a skilled photographer himself, includes beautiful illustrations to underscore his points regarding the maturity of pre-Code movies. (Check out

points regarding the maturity of pre-Code movies. (Check out pages 10-11, with stills from 1924's Ben-Hur, starring gay hunk Ramon Novarro. Compare them to the dreary 1959 remake with Charlton Heston.) Various appendices include the full text of the Code's "Do's and Don'ts" and the profit and losses of 100 pre-Code movies. Both make fascinating reading

The contents of this stunning book won't come as a surprise to buffs who attend the annual Pre-Code film festival at the Roxie Cinema, but it should give them, and many new fans, hours of thoughtful pleasure.



housewife addicted to

gambling; a butch dyke searching for God; a

gay man dying of AIDS; and an ancient

retired woman who

dreams imaginary

vacations

based on

travel arti-

picture postcards.
One of the most

impres-

and

Lovers, losers, and Liz

by Robert Julian

Tina in the Back Seat by Donald Rawley; \$12, Bard

n his first novel, The Nightbird n his first novel, The Nightbird Cantata, the late Donald Rawley demonstrated his consummate skill at portraying the plight of the outsider. In Nightbird, he focused on the plight of a young boy growing up in a dysfunctional Arizona family. Now, Bard Publishing is releasing a collection of 13 short stories by Rawley, under the title Tina in the Back Seat. This remarkable collection continues to demonstrate lection continues to demonstrate Rawley's extraordinary gift for il-luminating the lives of those who live outside the box — some-times to their own detriment.

times to their own detriment.

The stories occupy only 149
pages, but each one is a world
unto itself, created with an
amazing economy of words.
Within the first two paragraphs
of each story, Rawley throws the
reader into the heart of another

another personali-ty trying to skim the sur-face of life but, more often than not, ac scending its into depths. There is an undeniably melancholy tone Rawley's work. his characters appear without any judgments on the part of the au-

thor.
The collection Rawley assembles includes a dwarf Liz Taylor impersonator; a wealthy Chinese



sive and memorable stories is "Vaude-ville," in which a San Diego district attorney must deal with the videotaped confession of a serial killer's accomplice, while trying

to cope with her own (and her husband's) infidelities. Rawley's stories, rendered through confident, minimalist prose, capture the imagination in a way few writers can. On more than one occasion, I found myself imagining what wonder-ful films these stories would

make — the kind of material you make — the kind of material you would discover on PBS or the Independent Film Channel — stories full of pain, with hope for a redemption that may never materialize. In drawing his characters, Rawley clearly understood that no one can save us from ourselves.

Androgynous awareness

by Marv. Shaw

The Angelic Darkness by Richard Zimler; W.W. Norton, \$23.95

here are amateur psychologists who theorize about gayness as one manifesta-

tion of androgyny — that combination of male and female traits which lies at the basis of the homosexuality. Author Richard Zimler has explored androgyny in this novel to an extraordinary degree. Not only does he make a strong case for a man's life as a series of events and the reactions to that evolution, but he elaborates on the nature of a human being as flesh and spirit, human

and animal, and contemporary

VIRAMUNE® (nevirapine) Tablets VIRAMUNE® (nevirapine) Oral Suspension

WARNING: SEVERE AND LIFE-THREATENING SKIN REACTIONS (STEVENS-JOHNSON SYNDROME, TOXIC EPIDERMAL NECROLYSIS), INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE OCCURRED IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH VIRAMUNE®. (See

Warmings)
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Resistant "Muse Swerres" and "Marmings", Marmings)
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apportic component sorouro de consulteto deriver imissano no u regamento.

Trago inferendisers i en direction of CPTS Aby privariagine many result in lower plasma concentrations of other concontantly administered drugs that are extensively metabolized by CYPSA, (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLDSY) Thus, if a patient has been solitation of a dosage regimen for a drug metabolized by CYPSA, and begins treatment with VIRAMUNE⁴² dose adjustments may be necessary.

ever extractive. YMEANITIVE and NetContacted should not be administed occonstantly. Codiministration of neviragine and interconazine presented in a significant reduction in extractionarie plasma concentrations. (See CLINICAL PHARMA-CD.O.GV, Ong Interactions).

Pool Contracesphers: There are no clinical data on the effects of neviragine on the phermacokinetics of roil contracesphers; Neviragine may decrease plasma concentrations of oral contracesphers (also other hormonal contracesphers); therefore, where the contractive products of the products of the

Table 1 summarizes the marked laboratory abnormalities occurring in pediatric patients in Trial 81 882 and in follow-up Trial 8 892.

Table 1: Number of Pediatric Patients (%) with Marked Laboratory Abnormalities in Trials 81 882 and 81 892 Combined.

No. (%) of Patients

	n=37
Hematology	
Decreased Hg (<8.0 g/dL)	7 (19)
Oecreased platelets (<5D,D00/mm ³)	4 (11)
Decreased neutrophils (<750/mm²)	14 (38)
Increased MCV (>100 F/L)	13 (35)
Blood Chemistry	
Increased ALT (>25D U/L)	4 (11)
Increased AST (>25D U/L)	5 (14)
Increased GGT (>450 U/L)	4 (11)
Increased total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	1 (3)
Increased alkaline phosphatase (>2x ULN)	1 (3) 19 (51)
Increased amylase (>2x ULN)	6 (16)

Table 2: Percentage of Patients with Rashes in Adult Controlled Trials*										
	ACTO	2415	BI	1037	BI	1011	COM8INED DATA			
	NVP+ZOV ZDV+ddl +ddl			ZDV	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP	CONTRDL		
n	197	201	30	30	25	24	252	255		
Rash events of all Grades and all causality	39.6%	23.9%	26.7%	6.7%	32.0%	4.2%	37.3%	2D.0%		
Grade 3 or 4 rash events; all causality	8.1%	1.5%	3.3%	0%	8.0%	0%	7.6%	1.2%		

At recommended dose of one 200 mg lablet daily for the first 14 days followed by one 200 mg tablet twice daily

1 final ACTG 241 was designed to report Grade 345 (severe or life-threatening) events; except for several pre-specified

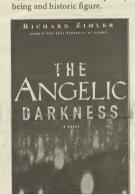
reverts including and for with all apolise are reported.

Table 3 issts treatment-related clinical adverse events that occurred in patients receiving VIRAMUNE* in ACTG 241 and

	ACT	G 241	Trial BI 1037 and BI 1011			
	Grade 3	/4 events	All severities			
	NVP+ZDV+ddl	ZDV+ddl	NVP+ZDV	ZDV alone		
Number of patients	197	201	55	30		
Overall incidence of related adverse events	31%	23%	42%	33%		
Rash	8	2	20	3		
Fever	3	3	11	3		
Nausea	5	4	9	3		
Headache	3	3	11	0		
Diarrhea	2	2	0	0		
Abdominal pain	1	2	2	0		
Ulcerative stomatitis	0	0	4	0		
Peripheral neuropathy	0	2	0	0		
Paraesthesia	1	0	2	0		
Myalgia	1	0	2	7		
Hepatitis	1	0	4	0		

Table 4: Percentage of Adult Patien	ts with Marked Laboratory Abnor				
	Data combined for controlled trials ACTG 241, BI 1037 & BI 1011				
	VIRAMUNE® n=252	Control n=255			
Hematology Decreased Hg (<8.0 g/dL) Decreased platelets (<50,000/mm²) Oecreased neutrophils (<750/mm²)	1.2% 0.8 11.1	2.0% 0.8 1D.2			
Blood chemistry Increased ALT (>250 U/L) Increased AST (>250 U/L) Increased GGT (>450 U/L) Increased Got (>450 U/L) Increased (total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	3.4 2.0 2.4 0.4	3.5 2.4 1.2 1.2			

Roehringer Ingelheim Roxane Laboratories



Bill is the book's central character, a man struggling both from a father-dominated childhood/ a father-dominated childhood, adolescence, and a marriage to a woman who is beautiful and icy. The break-up with the latter is hardly different from the end of many marriages of our day, though Alexandra is frank about here whiches that Bill is gay.

though Alexandra is frank about her suspicions that Bill is gay. When the marriage ends, Bill must find a roommate, if only for the sake of income. Peter gets auditioned and invited in. Peter turns out to be both extremely handsome and decidedly mysterious. Bill comes to realize that he is attracted to Peter, whose influence affects Bill in ways that range beyond and deeper than emotion. These insights involve such different and shocking discoveries as how much variations coveries as how much variations in scent can reveal, and which mystic elements can co-exist with

mystic elements can co-exist with the physical.

But the complications of Peter's life prove very hard for Bill to handle, and coping with Peter's friends and relations brings people, their problems and trying experiences. After his break-up from Peter, Bill tries developing a similar relationship with Paul, and it is with that af-fair that real love has a true

chance.

Perhaps most important of all is Bill's acceptance of his own androgyny. Strong love develops, and both Bill and Paul recognize that the combination of mascu-line and feminine is natural to both of them — and to the greater part of humankind. ▼

Straight up, with a twist

by Jim Piechota

Bar Stories, edited by Scott Brassart; Alyson Publications, \$12.95

smoky watering holes to the rhythmic beats and sticky floors of disco dance palaces comes this collection of stories by an able group of gay writers. The idea was the brainchild of Los Angeles writer Scott Brassart, who put out a call for writers who were interested in sharing their bar ex-periences. The editor boasts in the preface that this anthology "will preface that this anthology "will succeed not only as queer enter-tainment, but also as a literary so-ciological examination." That two-fold goal is a bit of a stretch for such volatile subject matter, and in the end, it's no surprise that most of these 28 tales come through more on the entertain. through more on the entertain-ment promise than on the social scrutiny one.

Every aspect of bar culture is covered in mostly short, mostly encovered in mostly short, mostly engaging two- to three-page episodes. Young love christened in a local bar is brought to a druggy, delusional climax in Kevin Bentley's opener, "Do You Believe I Love You?" which gets kudos for putting San Francisco's legendary Balcony bar on the map, as well as for a men-



tion of the inimitable End-Up.
Jim Piazza's "The New Me"
spends the night at New York
City's Candle Bar, where pick-up
lines are dribbled out of drunken
mouths, and new faces, when they
appear, are like "fresh meat in an
otherwise leftover buffet." The author shares a sweet-tart happiness
that only bar regulars (considered
"family" to some) can relate to.
Jack Fritscher's transformation
from Everyman to a cash-carrying
"john" in a hustler bar, "Patron of
the Arts," is intelligent and funny,
especially when he laments that
"the degeneracy of paying for sex

Put up your dukes



e don't want to mislead you about this film. Despite its pornesque title, any romance in Play It To The Bone is of the standard issue heterosexual model. It stars yummy Antonio Banderas (left) and Woody Harrelson (center) as boxers Cesar Dominguez and Vince Boudreau, respectively, who get a final shot at the middleweight championship of the world. They take a road trip through the desert on the way to Vegas with girlfriend Grace Pasic (Lolita Davidovich, right). Does she get to bonk them both?

We don't know, but we can fantasize.

Meanwhile, what is it about boxing this year at the movies? Already we've seen Brad Pitt and Ed Norton in Fight Club and Denzel Washington in The Hurricane, and now this. Is it the neo-macho show sport of the year, or what? Play It To The Bone, which runs over two hours and is rated R, opens Friday. ▼

squatted awkwardly on my head." At around midnight in Amster-dam's Eagle bar, "An Amsterdam

Night" finds writer David May in the carnal clutches of a meaty sex adventure, described to visual per-fection as he's "pushed, pulled and

pounded" by another bearded, muscular man like himself.

There are some great writers presented here, shining bright in their short moments in the spot-light, even if these tales of drag queens and bullies, leather men

and club kids do revisit some familiar territory. But if Bar Stories presents us with nothing we haven't all seen or heard before, the engaging collective voice of its contributors provides the consolation of experience and memory. ▼

Waltzing Matindi

by Deborah Peifer

Waiting for Matindi by Helen an; Ballantine, \$10.95

he news of a new Helen Hodgman novel is cause for Hodgman novel is cause for great rejoicing in this lesbian's nation. Her last novel, Passing Remarks (Ballantine), offered the darkest of dark comedy as well as a painful and pointed meditation on love between generations, told by the older member of such a couple. In her newest novel, Waiting for Matindi, Hodgman explores relationships again, but with a delightfully skewed perspective that invites us to look at the whole relationship thing in an entirely new way. And yes, she's entirely new way. And yes, she's just as funny as ever. Waiting for Matindi is a book you'll love read-

ing to your friends.

Let's get the whole Godot question out of the way first, shall we? The awaited Matindi does show up, but her arrival is considerably less than the state of the state show up, but her arrival is considerably less, more, and other than what was expected. She serves as a focal point for the wishes, hopes, dreams, and fears of the narrator, her lover, and various members of the community. She does not, however, provide anything like the answer.

the answer.

The unnamed narrator of this engaging novel is a woman trying to find her purpose in the world. Recovering from an illness, she tries to spend quality time with her lover, who is busy researching a book on the history of music notation, examples from which the narrator reports from time to time, and yes, the book is just as boring as the topic suggests. When banished from her lover's presence, owing to the exigencies presence, owing to the exigencies of publishing deadlines, the nar-



rator wanders about, meeting old friends and new, wondering about what it all means.

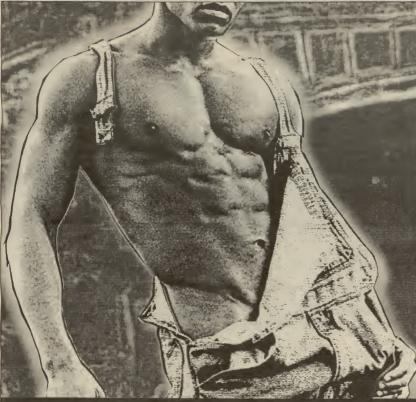
what it all means.

The narrator also worries. Indeed, her list of persons, animals, things, feelings, and trends about which she agonizes is formidable. Observing a sign forbidding the taking of wildlife from tidal pools, she frets: "I would hate to be a sea agreement. In the end despite anemone. ... In the end, despite the sign the NSW Fish Authority the sign the NSW Fish Authority had put there to protect you, someone from somewhere who thought you indispensable to the process of gaining and maintaining an erection would be bound to come along with a bucket, rip you off your rock, and take you home and eat you, probably lightly sautéed with shiitake mushrooms, ginger, and shallots." This narrator has a passionate detachnarrator has a passionate detachment that makes her observations poignant and funny. They also

poignant and funny. They also cause one to think furiously about just about everything.

Waiting for Matindi is a wonderful novel, filled with wry commentary and a real depth of feeling for the lost, the lonely or the just plain confused. Don't miss it.





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messages by using your Block of Time™ account from any touch-tone phone!

PARTING GLANCES

Castro Theatre Dec 24 5pm
You-bearded hunk, bottom of stairs,
with programs. Me-green knit shirt,
black pants heading up stairs. We ex
changed glances, but when I came
back down, you were gone. Please
call. № 71345

Buttercup In Berkeley 11/26 You sat at window table approx. noon, day after Thanksgiving. You: glasses, moustache, balding, dark, over 40. I was with gal-pal, we smiled as I exited. Thinking 'bout you. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71177

Cow Palace 12/4

You: stuming, glasses, light blue striped, with (boy?)friend. Me: Interested, tan shirt, faded 501's. with father, his lover. Wish I'd talked to you. Give me a second chance? 22 71178

Election Day AM Muni Castro
You there 7amish reminding people
to vote for Tom. Me, suit and tie
smoking, talked to you a bit had to go
to work, want to do dinner?
71325

Ross Store 10:30am Thurs 9 Dec Curly haired cutie, purchasing festive ties to "work 2 catering job" in line behind muscular black man. "Had to rush off to work." Let's make time. 2 71176

Flower Mart-Sat Dec. 11 You-working at shop- Me: tall, dark hair goatee, you smiled, but were on the phone said hi the week before-Dinner sometime? 22 71326

Sexy Stunning Young Asian Boy!
Admired in subway "M" muni 10:20,
12/17, Disarray spiky hair, great
smile, earning, black shirt, white
sleeves, lots of eye contact! w/Asian
BF? Me: cute blond boy, meet?
71327

Old Navy, Sat. 18th Old Navy, Sat. 18th You- crew cut, beautiful blue eyes, blk jacket, teal khakis, couldn't help staring- Me-Latin, waiting outside. We exchanged greeting, would like to introduce myself. № 71328

Gold's Gym Dec. 14 4pm You sexy WM; me Asian male. We exchanged a few smiles in the locker room. Wanted to introduce myself, but didn't want to interrupt your workout. Are you single? \$2 71342

Hillsdale Mall Sat. AM 30th You: good-looking, dk beard, thin. Me: sweatshirt & jeans, boots, w/older guy. We locked eyes for a long time. I can't stop thinking about you...

↑ 71366

Followed You And Lost You Soma You-good looking WM, dark hair and Jacket. 4th and Townsend by Caltrain Me-WM, green coat, jeans. Shoulder bag-exchanged glancs Wed, 12/22 5:30pm. Very nice.

71346

Green Room Xmas Eve 2pm South end of terrace. You: lean, short hair, big smile, gray t-shirt. Me: glasses, balding, maroon pullover at next table. You've captured my atten-tion before. I'd like to meet you. 71347

Fernando, Watergarden Worker Is being admired by a over the hill man who would enjoy tongue in cheek perform onto you! 271343

S.F. Flower Market 12/16 Christopher- you looking for Amaryl-lis. Would you like to have dinner? 271341

Sexy Muni Man Dec. 30 Embarcadero, 7:00pm, you standing, me sitting. You got off Van Ness. You dark hair, tie. Me: salt/pepper, blue eyes. Dinner? You are sexy! \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$ 71365

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

ISO Adventurous Outdoors Guy WM, attrac, 5'7", 150#, 48, neg. likes: hiking, camping, rodeos, motor-cycles, adventure, passion and big hearts.

71179

Seeking Hispanic/ Blond Blue 18-21yrs. Prefer significant other/friends HIV-. No overweights/fems. I'm Hispanic, blk. hr. brn. eyes. olive complexion, 24yrs. 157lbs. HIV- considered good looking comments made. 271180

Good Catch! GWM, 41, 6'3", 220# financially se-cure HIV-, recently out of LTR. Seeks 35-45y.o., HIV- dark, hairy, top. Like movies, entering & good times, no drugs, alcohol ok. 2 71181

If You're Gonna Suck Cock...
Then be so good at it your guys don't even fantasize fucking you' always cum back for more, is my motto!
What's yours? 22 71182

Penis Bondage-Erotic Chastity
Tight confinement, many days without cumming, prolonged sensual
arousal. Seeking partner for deep intense involvement, delicate beginning,
gradual development. WM 53, 5'8",
170#, solid workout body, baid short
hair/beard. 29 71183

EastBay Guy For You GWM, late 40's, Italian, hairy, pro-fessional. Looking for romance, sex, whatever. ☎ 71329

Best Friend Seeks Same
Not having much trouble getting laid,
would like to meet someone to share
affection, intimacy, and passion with.
'I'm HIV+ 4, 7, 5%'', 140lbs, top
Looking for a stocky bottom with a
vivid personality who wants a best
friend and companion.

71330

Frottage And Body Rubbing GAM wishes to meet a hairy, hunky GM who likes to climb on top and rub himself to the sweet release of pleasure. I'm 56, 5'8", HIV-. Let's connect. 22 71348

Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall Looking for year round mate. PGWM 43, HIV+, healthy, loving, love to travel, ISO LTR, would love to start New Years with you & my dog/and yours. 12 71350

New Millennium Opp: GBM, 44 n/s HIV- ISO bright, conversational top, HIV-, masculine bottom 30s-40s arts, collectable interests A+.

↑ 1371

Need a Boy? Cute, Latino boy looking for daddy. In S.F. Please call, you won't be sorry! ☑ 71373

Stockton/Sacto Area GLM, 36, HIV+, healthy, handsome, easy-going, 5'8", 150lbs, blk/bm, enjoy working out, movies, responsi-ble, serious man for friendship or more. 27 71351

Safe And Sane GWM, 53, 5'8", 185, brwbl, beard, HIV- seeks on-going relationship with horny, affectionate and loving GM who enjoys giving and receiving hand jobs. Let's pursue the possibilities.

↑ 1352

GAM Seeking GWM For LTR
Handsome, masculine GAM, 38,
5'9", 135lbs, seeks in-shape GWM
30-45, HIV- college educated. Prefer
facial hair, hairy body, versatile, SF,
leather. ♀ 71367

Powerlifter Seeks Husky Latino Beefy, short, masculine Latino want ed for LTR by GWM, 36, 6–295lbs. Brown hair/eyes, goatee, love food, travel, gym. For monogamous relationship. 22 71368

Ain't Misbehavin'
Firm, fit, successful, Leo top
w/8''solid manmeat. Saving love and
intimacy for bottom that valves same;
be 40-55, HIV+, kind, LTR.
271369

Secure Man Looking For Company Attractive, successful, 50's WGM in search of 40ish same. Career prospects for a good life offered in exchange for monogamous companionship. \$\oldsymbol{Q}\$ 71370

More Than Surface
Seeks similar for friendship and/or
LTR. In-depth, intelligent person with
a zeal for being. You: someone w/
depth and the need to understand life
more. 20 71372

ISO Outdoors GBM LTR Potential Cute GWM 25y/o 6'1" 140lb brown eyes dark hair slender build from San Jose area, prof and intelligent, ISO older African American for tennis, skiling and outdoors. ☑ 71374

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Wildman Seeks Co-Conspirators
My blg cock needs frequent, lengthy,
deep polishing. If you're big & hairy
even better, but attitude more important than appearance. Mature is pretty essential though. © 71184

2 Black Men Wanted 8" Or More Well endowed Black men to fulfill my fantasy. Would be White fuck toy for both. Me: 5'8", 155#. 24hr sexual slave. ☎ 71185

Naked Muscle Cock stroking exhibitionist seeks other naked guys for j/o excitement. Wild fantasty! Stripped down and ex-posed. Horny hard tools naked and shooting cum. Let's showoff together. ☎ 71186

Are You Shaved Smooth?!?! Hairless/shaved admirer looking for hot smooth men. Seeking shaved muscles and hairless cocks. Any public hair left?! Let me lick & touch while you show off your smooth assets. \$\overline{\Omega}\$ 71187

Hugs And Kisses
My arms hold what the world lacks.
I'm a top-like oral give/take, deep
kissing. Me: attrac. GWM, 46, 6'5",
250lbs, husky build. You: attrac. GM
(White, Asian, Latin), 21-35, slim.
№ 71188

Sexy GAM Seeks WM For Pumping GAM, 30, clean cut, smooth, boyish, gdlkg seeks WM for doggy-style fun. Blond's a plus. Couples welcome. ♀ 71189

Masochist Seeks Asian Muscular, 5'10", handsome, hot, 32y.o., blonde seeks experienced Chi-nese top/sadist for rope bondage, safe play and long-term friendship. I'm broad-minded, friendly, sincere and fun. You must be serious.

₹1190

I'm Glad I'm A Born Cocksucker So I don't have to learn all those complicated variations & nuances that delight your tool, uncut a plus, or be born again! 27 71191

Older GWM ISO BM
Over 40 who likes nipple work or rimming or dildos or PF or even more nasty fun. SF or EB. 22 71192

Do You Miss The Black House?
I'm hosting an intimate 12/31 Black-House-style gathering in Oakland for participants over 40. Hotel, chip in and direct contact (no beeper, voice-mail, work phone) # required.

271193

Uncut Hung 9 Hairy Masc Musc Versatile DAD, GWM, 50, balding, 5'9", 162. Butt slurpin, deep throat, inpple work, eat armpit, verbal talk dirty: seek masc/musc fitman with great butt, legs, nice cock, light S&M, rough & tender, kiss & cuddle. Nude photo required, get mine. HIV+ok. In SF/Feb. Thanks. 22 71331

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Others

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PERSONALS ARE FRE

lowing week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week. Daytime Telephone

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is TUESDAY at 5 PM, for the fol-

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MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Long, Thick, Hot! Hot, handsome, hung, top, 6'170", goatee, looking to fill your holes with a long, thick tool & big head. © 71333

Start The New Year Right! Italian GM, 44, 5'11", 200#, hairy, playful, toppish sks hairy GM, 30-50 in SF for frequent safe sexual encounters. 22 71334

Just Shut Up And Ride
34, WM, 5'10" 195lb blond/blue
bodybuilder wants masculine good
looking men to pump me or get
pumped. Also love to get massaged
and jerked off- anytime. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71335

Deep Into A Blond Bottom Seeking fuck buddy my age to pound this handsome blond 34yo. You & me masculine, cleancut, HIVneg, Into it. Looks unimportant.

↑ 71336

Fun Party-Boy VGL, BM, 32, 6′,165lbs, bottom-vers. Into sex, ws, sens. tit play, seeks hung top-vers. Leather Master or Construction type A+. No drama.

☐ 1353

Senior Cocksucker Seeks Same GWM 63, 6', 175#, HIVneg ISO man any race, age. Wt proportional to ht A+. 22 71354

Palo Alto Asian Man HIV- 41 5'11", 190 ISO a husky hairy man over 36yo to violate my smooth buns prefer mid Peninsula, have car will travel. 22 71355

Strip Down And Show Daddy E.Bay daddy, 56, ISO sonny boy, 30-35, for good times. NS, ND, hairy, uncut A+. You need it bad. 22 71356

Horny Mature Seniors
WHM 43,6; 160lbs. I love giving sensual oral pleasure to masc, straight-acting seniors one-on-one or in groups. Beards, hairy, non-buffed A+. Not into gay scene, s&m, pain, leather, va, or drugs.

271357

EB Seeking Uncut Hispanic Cock To service. Oakland area by W/M 50's 150#, 5'11" HIV-neg. ☎ 71358

Candywraper On Muscle Men Tight sexy clothes on fine men, span-dex, stretch shirts, thongs ect. I'm gym built with nice proportion, mid 20's, only myscle men need respond, № 71359

Pants Down J/O
Attractive, GWM, 6',41, 170lbs, br/br, healthy, HIV-seeks same. Let's J/O each other at my place in S.F. Esp like clean, smooth, butt, and quick cummers. Horny? @ 71360

Cum On My Face East Bay White male, 35, looking for big, cut and shaved cock and balls for oral services. 271375

Rugged Guy
Masculine, clean-cut, athletic Asian,
52, 59", 155, smooth swimmer's
body, seeks clean-shaven, lean or
muscular smooth WM for hot, sensual body and oral workouts. № 71376

Naked Ecstasy Soothing full body massage available for free for slim masculine boys from your early 20's to your early 40's by slim masculine WM 42. ☎ 71377

Attractive, Athletic, Smooth Asian Male wants to receive firm, full-body, long, erotic oil massages on every part of my nude body. From experienced or licensed masseurs. Available day-times on weekends. No \$ involved.

↑ 71390 Looking For Irishman
Who placed ad #71086 a few weeks
ago. You: looking for oral service in
Castro area. Me: the answer to your
wish. Please call- you'll be glad you
did. 22 71378

5'4" Boyish Asian Boyish Asian seeks smooth gym toned well endowed WM for safe fun. Also likes massage and hot tubbling. Blondes a plus. 22 71379

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms 18-39
Wanted by 55yr old White top, 6'0"
160lbs drk brn hair brn eyes big 9"
cut cock HIV+ seeks hot White or
Latin bottoms HIV+ who like to get
fucked, ☑ 71380

Submissive Black Bottom
Seeks top dominant aggressive,verbal, raunch, kink, sleaze +, available & some weekends. 271381

Naked Riders Hop On This Attractive Mediterranean 30yo, 5'10", 145lb, in-shape, dk haired & hairy, hot, uncut top. Be ht/wt proportionate, clean & ready for a deep plow. 22 71382

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massaging, sucking and cumming.
I'm 49, gym, br/bl, 6'3", 170.
71384

Seeking Senior J/O Partner
Masculine mature attractive WM
wants to watch you Jo on my face letting It stay there while you Jerk me
off. \$\Omega\$ 71385

Jackoff Buddy Str8 Or Gay
I love stroking cock. In a porno the-ater, I slowly open your fly...then get your cock excited...keep you on the edge of a cum.

↑ 1386

Seeks Bondage And Flogging Lean, athletic, 45, friendly seeks bondage and flogging. Reciprocation possible. 20 71387

In Shape Professional GWM ISO Trim GAM under 35 to receive in-tense front and rear oral action. LTR possible. 12 71388

34yo Sexy French Traveller 6', 160#, hairy, seeks in-shape, mas-culine, hot men, 20-40 to share safe, fun times. Any race. Ready to enjoy some unusual ways to practice sex.

FETISHES

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Cigars Cigarman looking to connect with other men into cigars, © 71338

Tickleplay GWM, 36, 5'11", 175#, seeks tick-lish guys for bondage/tickleplay. Pre-fer lean, 25-45 with some experience in this fetish, but open to all. 120 71339

Big Nipple Guy
WM mid 40s with big tits & nips for good clean tit worship fun. ISO
African American, Latin, Asian A+.
Big pecs/tits A++. Huge nips
A+++. @ 71361

Discreet Freak
Wet and natural, raunchy hole, scat,
raunchy underwear exchanged, slim,
egg hanging balls, cute, versatile, 3045, all races. Me: BM, 40, handsome, 61", 175lbs. 9"cut, versatile,
discreet freak. \$\omega\$ 71362

Energetic And Eager Guy
Talented mouth and tongue for front
and rear service to in-shape men. Me:
37, 5'8", 125, got-t, slim and defined. You: White in-shape 25-50y/o.
Pisserts. 22 71363

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71391

Drag Queens... Me bi HM, -ISO drag queens for fun. Pluses: red-heads, cigar-smokers, clean & sober, 69, freak sessions, (18-35 must). ☎ 71392

Young Slave For Dog Training
Very cute 26y.o. submissive boy from
Eastern Europe wants to be fully
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masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-45,
for erolic bondage and play. Safe,
discreet, trustworthy. SF/East Bay.
BI ok. 120 71395

Over-The Knee Spanking Needed! Stern lecture, old-fashioned corporal Stern lecture, old-fashioned corporal punlshment whand, paddle, belt on the seat of my pants, underwear & bare butt (w/pants & shorts pulled down) required to make this GWM, 40's behave. Authoritative discipline A+. Thank you sir! 22 71396

Looking For Serious Nipple Workout 45yr old GWM nipple pig, grn/bm, salt & pepper, goatee, lits & piercing, seek-ing serious nipple pig buddy for kick ass tit play with growth in mind!...pumping, welghts, clamps. Call! \$\oldsymbol{2}\$73397

Safe But Painful SM/BD GWM, 42, 5'10", 175lbs, br/br into play that involves some discomfort. ISO bottoms, but will negotiate will apeliate tops. Ethnics, men of color welcomed. In-shape 20's-50's preferred.

71398

COUPLES

Two Ready For Action
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fuck like it's 1979.

71364

Stiff · Cocked Man Wanted 4, 3ways Younger man is super hung, dominant, uncut, likes it rough. Older man is submissive, can be whipped. Partner needed for 3 way. 27 71399

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my male slave. Serious only need
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Variety packs

by Gregg Shapiro

n addition to having very long titles, the various artists discs *Nowcore!: The Punk Rock Evolution* (K-Tel), *Punk O Rama 4*: Straight Outta The Pit (Epitaph), The Mo-ment Of Truth: The Emo Diaries (Deep Elm) and All Done With Mirrors: A Le Grand Magistery Compilation all pack a

What does it say about "punk rock" when the ultimate corporate record label, K-Tel, puts out a "punk rock" compilation? Think about that for a while, would you? While you're thinking, you may also want to consider the "evolution" of the disc's title. What is it exactly that "punk rock" has evolved into? The "punkest" moments here (The Dismemberment Plan's "The Ice Of Boston," Knapsack's "Decorate The Spine," Boston," Knapsack's "Decorate The Spine, "Why Did We Ever Meet" by The Promise Ring, "Convenient Parking" by Modest Mouse, Braid's "New Nathan Detroits") versus the most metallic moments (Drive Like Jehu's "Caress," Jawbox's "Savory," Hum's Smashing Pumpkinesque "Stars") just raise more questions on a disc that offers few answers, which is not necessarily a bad thing.

Epitaph Records's California brand of

Epitaph Records's California brand of punk is in all its speedy glory on the 25-track Punk O Rama 4 compilation. You've got your Pennywise ("Fight It"), Bad Religion ("Generator"), New Bomb Turks ("Snap Decision"), NOFX ("Kids Of The K Hole"), Voodoo Glow Skulls ("They Always Come Back"), Agnostic Front ("It's My Life") and Rancid ("1998"), to name a few. Judy Life and the standard of the standa is doing here (aside from the fact that he's

now on the Epitaph label) is anyone's guess.

New York-based Deep Elm Records
(home to the wonderful Muckafurguson, The Gay EP fame) have released a co of compilations intent on showing off their

tastes in music, Planes Mistaken For Stars is the only act to make it onto both the full-length *The Moment Of Truth* and the recently released untitled EP. Race Car Riot and Deep Elm's Appleseet Cast join Planes Mistaken For Stars on the EP, while PMFS is surrounded by such luminaries as Chicago's own Sweep The Leg Johnny and Sweden's Starmarket.

Summer reprise

Summer's long over, and the days have gotten shorter. What can you do to recapture some of the warmth of summers past? Try putting The Best Summer Album in the World...Ever! (Virgin) into the CD player. The disc includes classic summer tracks such as "Summer In The City" by The Lovin' Spoonful, "Groovin" by The Rascals, "Summertime Blues" by Eddie Cochran, "Beach Baby" by First Class, "Summer (The First Time)" by Bobby Goldsboro, and several Beach Boys songs, alongside unexpected, but no less apropos alongside unexpected, but no less apropos "summer songs" such as "Long Hot Sum-mer" by The Style Council and "Echo Beach" by Martha And The Muffins. It won't cure seasonal depression, but it's a pleasant diversion.

pleasant diversion.

Reggae On The Rocks: Voodoo, Sacraments, Oddities & Other Holy Anthems (What Are Records?) features two tracks by the Long Beach dub all-stars, which is comprised of the surviving members of Sub-lime. Recorded live at Red Rocks, this disc also contains contributions by Majek Fah-

also contains contributions by Majek Fah-sek and Justin Hinds & The Dominoes. My favorite of these various artists discs is Le Grand Magistery's All Done With Mir-rors. Featuring outstanding contributions from Momus, Louis Philippe, Comet Gain, Laila France, and The Softies, this 19-track disc's effect is positively magical. Could someone please tell me how such a cool label ever found a home in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan? \(\bar{\psi}\)

Blues brothers (and sisters)

by Gregg Shapiro

've always maintained that women have more of a right to sing the blues than men. After all, men are more often than not the source of the blues. But men seem to have cornered the blues market, as only three of the nine albums in this review are by women artists.

Bitter Sweet Blues (Alligator) by Gaye Adegbalola: When a blues artist can take the blues, a style of music that always sounds more stuck than rooted in the past, and infuse it with a modern-day sensibility, then they have really achieved some-thing. Ms. Adegbalola is one such artist. Sure, there are cover tunes here, including Smokey Robinson's "You Really Got A Hold On Me," but it is Adegbalola's original songs, such as "Big Ovaries, Baby," "Noth-ing's Changed," "You Don't Have To Take It (Like I Did)" and "Nightmare" that make

this CD such a solid accomplishment.

Loud Guitars, Big Suspicions (Arista/Pogense) by Shannon Curfman: In mid-October, 14-year-old Ms. Curfman's debut disc debuted at #9 on the Billboard blues chart, further indicating (as Jonny Lang did a few years ago) that the blues are no longer the realm of the old and disenfranchised She plays a wailing guitar and can belt these songs (seven of which she co-wrote) out with the best of them. Curfman is the odds-on favorite in a Celebrity Death

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Out There

◄ page 30

"Who do you think bought up all those SUVs as soon as they came out, girl? Gay boys fell for them in a big way — they're an answer to every jeep fantasy a gay boy ever had... and every Lexys fantasy, all

had... and every Lexus fantasy, all rolled up into one."

We're so glad we have big sisters to explain mens to us. This came in handy as we explored LA in our off hours. What you see is what you get at Muscle Beach, which the NY Times called "the famously campy spot for public workouts" in a recent travel piece. We had an ocean view in our room at Shutters on the Beach, just a hop from the campy workjust a hop from the campy work-out spot, which fills nearly three acres of sand with all kinds of exercise gear, and men with the muscles to use them. Now we started out about cars and ended up about mens: how'd that hap-

Amusingly, though GM was picking up the tab, the car that was sent 'round LAX airport to meet us was a Lincoln Town Car. You can only really get to know LA through a car window. We noticed a billboard for United Way which declared, "Chicks love it when you're charitable!" And a sign in a strip mall that said it all: Man Trap Nails.

Sperm whale

When the news broke last week that rocker Melissa Etheridge and her lesbian partner Julie Cypher had revealed the paternity of their two children to be rock 'n' roll Hall of Famer David Crosby, the jaws dropped all around. The Associated Press reports that Crosby fathered 3-year-old Bailey and 1-year-old



Melissa Etheridge

Beckett with filmmaker Cypher via artificial insemination.

via artificial insemination.

The revelation ends years of gossip speculation that the biological father might have been virile celebs Brad Pitt or Tom Hanks. Crosby, 58, appears on the cover of the Rolling Stone (on the newsstands Friday) with his wife Jan, Etheridge, Cypher, and their two children. two children.

two children.

Defending her unusual choice of sperm donor, Etheridge said, "For one, he's musical, which means a lot to me, you know, and I admire his work. And he has his own life, has his own family."

Well, okay, although we might have chosen Stills, Nash or especially Yugnt Did Melissa give

cially **Young**. Did Melissa give any thought to, um, genetic dam-

Three on a match

Here's to a thoroughly modern millennium, in which the musical treats never stop coming. Coming up soon, on Saturday, February 12 at 7 p.m., is a special evening of Cabaret at the Herbst (Theatre, 401, Van. Nees). See inspectories 401 Van Ness). SF impresario Lawrence Helman, producer of jazz artist Paula West's CD release concert last summer, has booked three cabaret comic divas with cachet, Christine Ebersole, Claiborne Cary and Maureen McVerry, for the event.



Ebersole, a Saturday Night Live alumna ('81-'82), comes to SF after her triumph as Mame Dennis in the Paper Mill Playhouse production of Jerry Herman's Mame. She returns to the small screen this spring in the TV movie Mary & Rhoda, ABC's reunion of TV luminaries Mary Tyler Moore and Valerie Harper. Cary, a Broadway veteran and the sister of actress Cloris Leachman, is currently playing the Oak man, is currently playing the Oak Room at the Algonquin in NYC; and McVerry was last seen in ACT's A Christmas Carol. Tickets for the thrilling threesome are now on sale and going fast through City Box Office at 392-

Liza immortalized

That swirl of rumors about su-perstar Liza Minnelli bringing her comeback show to our little cowtown later this year has got Out There all hot and bothered. It seems there will always be an au-dience for Liza items, so when our



copy of Holy Terror, Bob Colacello's tell-all Andy Warhol book, arrived (it's newly out in paperback from Cooper Square Press), we looked her up in the index and turned immediately to the Liza pressess.

Andy Warhol

index and turned immediately to the Liza passages.

Colacello's job in large part seemed to be beating the bushes for society types with disposable income, and enticing them to have their portraits done by Warhol. He snagged Liza on the dance floor at Regine's. Eventually "Liza came down to the Factory and the state of the state dance noor at regines. Eventually, "Liza came down to the Factory to sit for her Polaroids, looking frazzled, an hour late. When it was time for her to leave, Brigid [Berlin, Factory factotum] asked her to sign the guest book, Andy's latest idea for further IRS documentation.

mentation.
"Because/because/because/be

"Because/because/because/be cause,' she wrote.
"You're a great poet,' gushed Andy. 'We'll publish your poems in Interview, won't we, Bob?'
"Liza looked amazed. 'It's from The Wizard of Oz,' she said."
Later, when it was time for her to pick up her portraits, Liza "looked more frazzled than the day she had posed shakier, paler. day she had posed, shakier, paler, down. But she came to life when

down. But she came to life when she saw the portraits, which made her look happy, healthy, strong, and sexy. 'I love them!' she screeched. She took all four. "That night, Andy and I had dinner with [Liza's sis] Lorna Luft. She was really worried about Liza, she said. Andy didn't say anything. He was afraid it might get back to Liza, or [designer queen] Halston, and as he always said, 'We don't have the check yet, Bob.' In this case the check was for \$70,000, and Liza paid promptly."

Blues records

previous page

Match against Britney Spears.

Blues Everywhere I Go (M.C.
Records) by Odetta: Blues legend
Odetta has released her first
record in 14 years, coinciding with her 50th anniversary in the enter-tainment business. This timeless

album is a cause for celebration. *Jellycream* (RCA) by Bramhall: Doyle Bramhall has surrounded Doyle Bramhall has surrounded himself with a respected roster of guest musicians (including Charlie Sexton, Wendy Melvoin, Lisa Coleman, and Mitchell Froom) on his Tchad Blake-produced album of ultra-modern blues. A varied and melodic disc, if this is the blues of the future, color me blue. Philadelphonic (Okeh/550) by G. Love & Special Sauce: Like Bramhall, G. Love & Special Sauce are purveyors of cutting edge

Bramhall, G. Love & Special Sauce are purveyors of cutting edge blues. G. Love & Special Sauce restore the rhythm to "rhythm and blues," especially on tracks such as "Dreamin", "Rodeo Clowns," "Do It For Free," and "Friday Night (Hundred Dollar Bill)."

Sideways Soul (K) Dub Narcotic Sound System meets The Jon

Spencer Blues Explosion in a Dancehall Style!: For anyone who doesn't think that The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion stretches the rigid boundaries of the blues enough, there is this collaboration between JSBX and Calvin Johnson (of Dub Narcotic). Sugar Candy Taxi (Ruf/Plat-

inum Entertainment) by Kevin Coyne: Coyne takes a unique ap-proach to the blues, adding unexproach to the blues, adding unexpected keyboard flourishes (on "Sugar Candy Taxi"), a flute (on "Porcupine People"), a saxophone ("Rusting Away"), and his unique vocal style (on "The Garden Gate Song," "Little White Arms"), making this a singular and unforget-table littering experience.

Time To Burn (Jericho/Sire) by Jake Andrews: Just a few years (five) older than Shannon Curfman, Jake Andrews goes for a more straightforward and tradi-

more straightforward and traditional approach to his blues. Blues purists everywhere will rejoice.

Bill Sims (PBS/WB) by Bill Sims: Also firmly rooted in a more established blues style, this 12-track disc also has touches of jazz ("Smoky City") and New Orleans ("When Do I Get To Be Called A Man"). ▼



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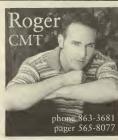
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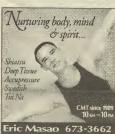
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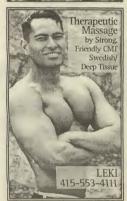
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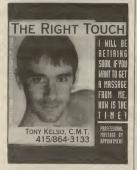
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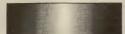
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